Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 268 | TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2012 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

With the defeat of candidates aligned with him and the possibility that he may be impeached in January, should Gov. Benigno Fitial resign now?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

Congress wants to know details about ex-CIA chief's extramarital affair.

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America's decision to re-elect Obama will affect the U.S. economy.

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LIFE & STYLE

Veterans preserve memories of war with their own works of art.

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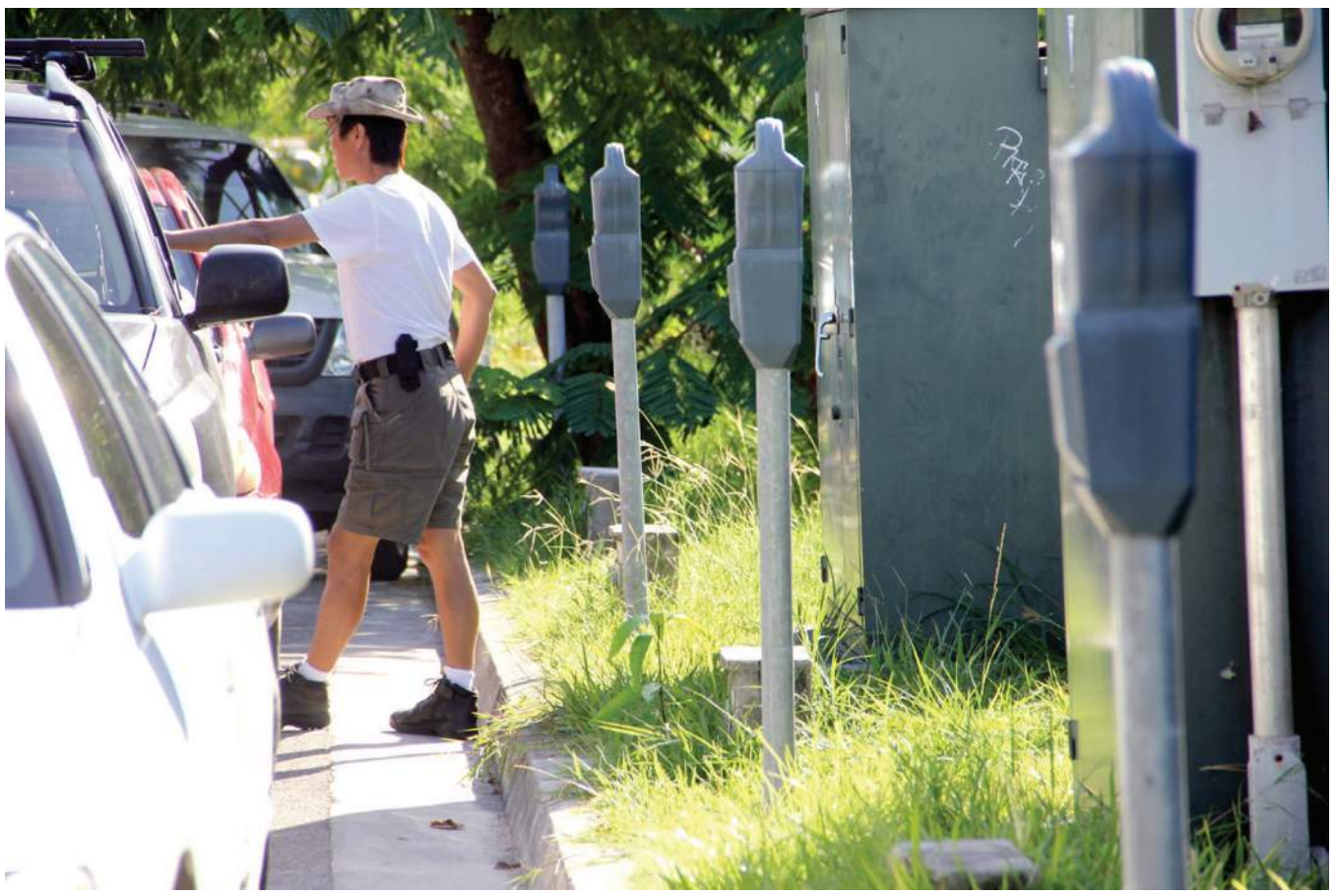
WITH KEY BILLS LANGUISHING IN HOUSE, SENATE

Three-year term no better



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A man stands near parked cars and idle parking meters, right, at the Garapan tourist district yesterday afternoon. These parking meters have been sitting idle since 2006 and the government has been losing its opportunity to generate revenue to help fund tourism programs in the CNMI. A revenue-generating bill allowing the Department of Public Works to operate and start assessing fees, along with other good bills, has been languishing in legislative committees in the soon-to-close three-year 17th Legislature.

»Lawmakers cite measures they hope to pass before 17th Legislature ends

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While the 17th Legislature will go down the annals of CNMI political history for an unsuccessful bid to impeach the governor, its historic three-year run instead of the normal two did not necessarily result in better things for the economy, healthcare, and retirement program, among other things.

As of yesterday, many lawmakers were still hoping that their bills would be passed and signed into law before the inauguration of the 18th Legislature in January.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) said it was also during the 17th Legislature when, for the first time in CNMI history, the government partially shut down because of a fiscal year 2010 budget deadlock between the 17th House and Senate. The partial shutdown sent some 1,400 public servants for days without work and pay.

Tebuteb said the three-year term would have been put to better use if committees reviewed and recommended passage of revenue-generating bills, cost-cutting bills, reforms, and other key measures.

See THREE-YEAR on Page 4

NMI voters to elect AG in 2014

»Senate panel to hold public hearing on AG nominee tomorrow

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Voters will not elect an attorney general until the November 2014 general election as a result of a newly ratified legislative initiative amending the CNMI Constitution. This means that if and when the Senate confirms the governor's current AG nominee, Joey Patrick San Nicolas, he will serve as the highest legal officer of the Commonwealth until an elected AG is sworn into office.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan) said yesterday that the ratified House Legislative Initiative 17-2, House Draft 3, House Substitute 2 won't affect San Nicolas' pending AG nomination.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial nominated San Nicolas in October. His nomination requires the advice and consent of the Senate.

"The election for AG will be held

See NMI on Page 4

A WWII wag hangs a tale

In honor of Veterans Day, Portlander Robert Wright shared this truth-is-stranger-than-fiction story of two Portland pilots in World War II.

A dirty, hungry little mutt, wandering around the Pacific tropical island of Tinian, was accustomed to the roar of giant aircraft. It was hot, midday. The returning aircrews shut down the engines on their B-29 bombers after completing another 17-hour round-trip mission. Japan was far to the north. The mongrel scampered over the hot tarmac to find shade under giant wings, and hopefully a bit of food from an airman.

A graduate of Grant High School was on one of those

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Dog story ends up in *Life* magazine.

Interim laboratory director eyed for hospital. PAGE 2
Wife of PH consul general Macaraig passes away. PAGE 5

Local

Interim laboratory director eyed for hospital

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

To immediately address one of the jeopardy statuses slapped on the CNMI's lone public hospital, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta says they're planning to hire an interim laboratory director.

Babauta bared this plan after officials from both local and federal agencies gathered on Saturday to discuss the ultimatum issued by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the Commonwealth Health Center.

Immediate jeopardy status 2 and 3 were still marked "unabated" by CMS following receipt of insufficient proof. These citations pertain to the hospital laboratory issues and the lack of CT-scanner and portable x-ray unit at the hospital. The corporation had been able to rectify only the first immediate jeopardy status—the lack of defibrillators at the hospital.

Babauta disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that local and federal officials want to bring in an interim laboratory director or manager with the help of the Department of Health and Human Services. The interim official will manage the laboratory unit until a permanent person is named for the post.

CHCC has only until Dec. 3, 2012, to address all deficiencies identified by the CMS or its condition of participation will be terminated. This will result in the loss of millions of federal monies from Medicare and Medicaid. CNMI receives an average of $8 million to $10 million in reimbursements from CMS every year.

The Saturday teleconference was participated in by Babauta, CHCC chief operating officer Esther Muña, and hospital director Karen Buettner. Also present were Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Health and Human Services regional director for Region 9 Herb Schultz, and OIA Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta.

OIA's Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* that the focus of the discussion was the technical assistance that OIA may be able to provide the hospital to help address the CMS citations immediately. OIA's Babauta was on island early this month where he met corporation executives numerous times. Babauta earlier vowed to assist the corporation and that he has already identified some funding for the hospital.

Saipan Tribune learned that the same conference discussed the possibility of tapping an expert—through OIA's help—to assist the corporation with its revenue cycle management.

Starting this fiscal year, all federal health programs will be administered by CHCC so that indirect costs will be transferred directly to the corporation. This issue was also discussed during the conference, according to Babauta.

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November 03, 10, 17, 24, 2012
December 01, 08, 15, 2012
FINAL GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
Sunday, December 16

19th Rota Blue Triathlon

19TH ANNUAL
ROTA BLUE
TRIATHLON
A-TYPE HALF MARATHON: 1.5 KM SWIM, 40 KM BIKE, 10 KM RUN B-TYPE OLYMPIC DISTANCE: 2.0 KM SWIM, 90 KM BIKE, 21 KM RUN
A-TYPE TEAM COMPETITION
ROTA
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NOVEMBER 17, 2012

The **19th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon** comes to Rota on Nov. 17, 2012, featuring the tropical environment and warm island hospitality of the southernmost of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The annual Ironman event, jointly sponsored by the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan** and the **Rota Mayor's Office** features two distances: an A-type half-marathon distance, which includes a 1.5 km swim, followed by a 40 km rigorous biking course and a 10 km run (no time limit) and the B-type Olympic distance, which includes a 2.0 km swim, followed by a 90 km biking course and topped off with a 21 km run (8-hour time limit). For team competitors, there will also be triathlon of the A-type distance, again with no time limit.

Pre- registration will be held on Nov. 16, 2012, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the **Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar**. The swim course inspection will be held the same day from 1-2 p.m. at the East Harbor. Final registration will take place that evening from 4:30-8 p.m. at **Rota Resort & Country Club**'s Sunset BBQ Tiki Tiki. The pre-race briefing for all participants will be held that evening from 6-7:30 p.m.

Starting time for both distances is 6:30 a.m. at Rota's East Harbor. Wetsuits are permitted, while bike helmets are required. Registration fees are $80 for A-type course solo competitors and $70 for each member in a team. The fee for the B-type course is $100. The entry fee includes and event t-shirt, high-quality swim cap, and an invitation to the awards banquet at East Harbor.

The annual Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the Northern Mariana Islands, including the **XTERRA Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon** and the **Tinian Turquoise Blue** events.

For more information about the annual Triathlon, visit the Events Calendar at **www.mymarianas.com**, or contact Frank Tudela at 1.670. 664.3200/01 or ftudela@mymarianas.com or Sandra Atalig at the MVA Rota Office at 1.670.532.0327.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

OIA grants for utility improvements total $31.3M

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Office of Insular Affairs has provided the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. a total of $31.294 million in grants and awards within a span of just two years to upgrade the islands' utilities.

Records obtained from the office OIA Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta showed that the amount was awarded to the utilities firm from fiscal years 2010 to 2012.

Among the utility systems that received the bulk of these funds is CUC's water projects on Saipan, totaling $11.421 million. Of that amount, $6.8 million was awarded during Babauta's first term in office in fiscal year 2010, while another $4.5 million was provided last fiscal year.

The same records also showed that OIA awarded CUC significant assistance so it could meet the requirements of two court orders that required the utilities firm to comply with certain federal regulations.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson issued the stipulated orders in March 2009, setting the requirements and deadlines for CUC to meet. The orders represent the agreement between the CNMI and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency based on the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Stipulated Order I required CUC to create a new management and financial structure for all aspects of CUC's operations. It is related to CUC's inadequacy to provide potable water and sufficient wastewater services. Stipulated Order 2 involves the lack of infrastructure for safe fuel storage, handling and transfer facilities of the power generation facilities, and power distribution, including possible environmental site cleanup.

In fiscal year 2010, Babauta's office gave CUC a $4-million grant to address the used oil project for stipulated order 2. That same year, OIA also funded the CUC wastewater master plan amounting to $798,948. The following fiscal year, the utilities corporation secured $2.1 million for other requirements of stipulated order 2.

OIA also gave CUC $8.3 million to repair and improve its power generation system and help it pursue alternative energy. In fiscal 2010, CUC was able to repair its Rota power generation system with the $3.5 million it got from OIA and another $1.3 million for other power generation projects on Saipan.

See OIA on Page 4

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Visiting Zumba education specialist Carolina Arias from New Zealand and licensed Zumba instructor Josh Pocaigue of Guam are flanked by some of the participants of the Zumba Master Class held at Gold's Gym parking lot last Friday.

70-plus take part in first Zumba master class

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Over 70 individuals danced their hearts out during the first ever Zumba master class led by Zumba education specialist Carolina Arias at the Gold's Gym parking lot last Friday.

Men and women, young and old alike, enjoyed 1.5 hours-worth of Zumba fun featuring dance moves and routines combined with Latin and other kinds of music handpicked by Arias.

In an interview, Arias attributed Zumba's success to its ability to draw the interest of people from all walks of life to this fun and effective fitness program.

"It's about moving and having fun," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Besides Arias, licensed Zumba instructor Josh Pocaigue of Guam also took center stage at the event.

"Zumba pretty much saved my life," said Pocaigue, who used to weigh 230 lbs before Zumba. He now weighs 155 lbs.

"No matter what you do and how old you are, it's never too late to live a happier and healthier lifestyle," said the 24-year-old instructor.

Arias agreed, saying that Zumba is a really good program "because it's such a fun way of exercising and it can really help to improve one's general health."

Arias, who travels throughout Australia, New Zealand, and Asia to train Zumba fitness instructors, also conducted a Zumba Fitness Instructor Training on Nov. 10.

The training brought in 37 new Zumba instructors, 14 of whom are from Saipan while the rest are from Guam.

Elly Stoilova and Jo-Ann Aquino, licensed Zumba instructors on Saipan, also participated in the training to refresh their knowledge and further develop their skills.

Stoilova described the training as intensive. "She shared a lot of valuable tips how to train properly, lead a class, choreograph songs, build a playlist for a Zumba Fitness class and other knowledge important for new instructors so they could have fun, exciting and safe classes for the students," Stoilova said.

With the popularity of Zumba on island growing steadily, Arias expressed hope that the Zumba program will become bigger as it can also address major health concerns such as obesity and diabetes.

"This is just a great way of getting into an exercise routine. It's important that it grows here on the islands because we really think it's a good option for people to get healthier," she said.

Arias, who visited the CNMI for the first time, said she loves the islands and described the people as "very nice, energetic, and welcoming."

"They just make you feel at home," she added.

Arias flew back to New Zealand today.

HEALTH-WALK
Join us this SATURDAY morning, NOVEMBER 17, for a fun-filled walk with PSS!
LIVE HEALTHY:
Life Walk
with
PSS
Registration Information:
Saipan: 5:30am to 7:30am – 13 Fisherman Pavilion
Tinian: 6:00am to 8:00am – Tachog'na Beach
Rota: 6:00am to 8:00am – Joaquin M. Ogo Softball Field
– Dr. Rita Hocog Inos RJSHS
Original was designed in 2009 by Winona Blanco-Maratita
12th Grade Tinian High School

40th YEAR Tan Holdings Established 1972

Weekly Raffle Winners

PRIZE	TICKET NUMBER	NAME
GC- Overnight Stay for 2 @ Fiesta Resort	11416	Angelo Peralta
GC- Sunday Brunch for 2 @ ISLA Cafe	9005	Ric Villamin
GC- fr. Cosmos - $20.00	3806	Casey Huliganga
GC- fr. Cosmos - $20.00	7491	Ma. Arliyah Tobias
GC- fr. D&Q - $20.00	8668	Alyssa Pantaleon
GC- fr. D&Q - $20.00	0472	Frank Gibson
GC- Dinner Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	5282	Chrystalle Lloren
GC- Dinner Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	1450	Janice Villagomez
GC- Lunch Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	6943	Jessica Estrada
GC- Lunch Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	3386	Butch Sygua

Winners must present their coupons to the Kanoa Resort front desk to receive prize.

THREE-YEAR

From Page 1

He cited his House Bills 17-2 and 17-3, the second and third bills to be introduced in the 17th Legislature in January 2010. They both remained with the Ways and Means Committee, he said.

"My revenue-generating bill, HB 17-3, allows the Department of Public Works to operate the parking meters in Garapan and start assessing fees but it is still in the [committee]. That would have helped earn revenue to maintain the Garapan tourist district and other areas," Tebuteb, who was re-elected during the Nov. 6 mid-term elections, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Some 60 parking meters in Garapan have been sitting idle since 2006 and the government has not made use of them.

Tebuteb's HB 17-2, or the Managaha Island landing and user fee trust account bill, has also yet to see the light of day. The bill seeks to use a portion of the $5 landing fee on the famous tourist island to be used exclusively for the Marianas Visitors Authority's programs to promote the CNMI as a tourism destination.

Since January 2010, there's only been one major revenue-generating bill that became law—the so-called tourism incentive law but this was later amended and will be amended once again to become a hotel tax hike bill instead because of complications.

In essence, there's been no major revenue-generating law that has been implemented under the 17th Legislature.

The Fitial administration-aligned 17th House leadership introduced and passed Saipan casino bills but these were killed by the Senate, which wants the proposal to be put before voters instead. Saipan voters twice rejected the proposal to legalize casino gaming on Saipan. Only voters on Tinian and Rota approved similar proposals in the past.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said he wished the Legislature would still consider a Saipan casino bill, saying it is a major revenue-generating measure that is badly needed by the CNMI economy.

Fitial said his invitation to the House and Senate for another leadership summit stands, to help address the healthcare program, the retirement program, utilities, and the economy.

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (R-Saipan) said he's a bit disappointed that his HB 17-136, which lifts restrictions on the use of drag, trap, and surround nets for non-commercial fishing, has been sitting idle in the Senate.

"People are suffering because of the economy yet they can't even fish using these nets so that they can provide for their family. I am still going to push for this bill, the 17th Legislature is still not over," he said in a phone interview.

Iguel lost his re-election bid. But he had three bills that became law during the 17th Legislature.

Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan) said he wishes there's still a way to pass his HB 17-249, which the Judiciary has been asking the Legislature to consider. The bill allows for more judicial discretion related to sentences involving tracking of controlled substances.

"It's [been] with the JGO [Judiciary and Government Operations] Committee for almost a year," he said.

His other bill, HB 17-171 or the Commonwealth Litter Control Act, has also been with the Senate for several months now.

"That anti-littering bill will lower the minimum fine for littering from $200 to $25 so that it can really be enforced. I don't understand why the Senate has not been acting on it, it's still with one of their committees," Palacios added. Palacios lost his re-election bid but hopes that another lawmaker will reintroduce this bill in the next legislature.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), for his part, said he hopes his HB 17-232, among other things, would still pass. This is the voluntary veterans preference in employment bill that allows private employers to exercise a voluntary veterans preference program when hiring staff.

Villagomez, who will be back in the next Legislature, said the bill remains with the Senate.

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) said her HB 17-308 has been sitting in the Senate for several months, which she said could "generate revenue and provide job opportunities for the unemployed on Rota."

Her HB 17-308, a Rota capital improvement projects bill, reappropriates $271,240 from two public laws for the construction of a slaughterhouse and fence around a water cave.

Santos also cited her HB 17-63, a land compensation consummation bill.

"This bill imposes a six-month deadline for private properties taken under eminent domain to be properly processed and legally consummated. In doing so, private landowners do not have to wait for years and years before compensation if they choose monetary over land exchange," Santos said.

She added that she would like to see her HB 17-200 or the Faloma and Maleina Parent Notification Act, passed and signed into law. This bill allows immediate notification of parents and guardians if a student is absent from school.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan), whose elected attorney general legislative initiative was ratified by voters on Nov. 6, said while he does not have other measures he would like to push in the 17th Legislature, he expressed concerns about the CNMI Scholarship Program.

"A big concern in the community is with regards to the CNMI Scholarship Program where new Saipan college students are being unfairly denied the assistance solely because of their decision to study abroad and not at NMC [Northern Marianas College]. Rota and Tinian students are given and granted the CNMI scholarly grants. Twice, the CNMI Scholarship board and its chairman have snubbed my call to a meeting to discuss this matter. All I know is that they will answer to this injustice one way or another," said Dela Cruz, who won his re-election bid.

NMI

From Page 1

at the general election in 2014," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune.*

Dela Cruz is the author of the elected AG initiative, which garnered 9,248 "yes" votes or 82 percent of the total votes on the measure during the Nov. 6 midterm elections. Only 2,073 voted "no" to the initiative.

He said the CNMI's experience with the now fugitive from justice Edward Buckingham, a former attorney general, compelled voters to choose an elected AG over an appointed AG. The governor has been opposed to an elected AG, saying it's like having "two governors" in the CNMI.

Buckingham allegedly tried to shield himself, with the aid of law enforcement officers, from being served a penal summons related to criminal cases filed against him by the Office of the Public Auditor in early August. Buckingham left the CNMI on Aug. 4 and did not return for a required court appearance. He left a day after he, along with the governor, signed a sole-source $190.8-million diesel power purchase agreement for 25 years.

The CNMI used to be one of 10 remaining U.S. states and territories that still have an appointed attorney general, according to a report prepared by the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations that recommended the elected AG initiative's passage.

Public hearing

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations will conduct a public hearing on San Nicolas' nomination tomorrow at 10am in the Senate chamber on Capital Hill.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), EAGI Committee chairman, urged the public to submit written testimonies before the public hearing and/or provide oral testimony during tomorrow's public hearing.

When the governor nominated San Nicolas, the latter asked to be allowed to remain in his current post as staff attorney at the Commonwealth Ports Authority until the Senate confirms his nomination.

But as soon as San Nicolas was nominated by the governor, concerns were raised as to his residency.

The CNMI Constitution requires an AG nominee to reside in the CNMI at least three years "immediately preceding" his confirmation. San Nicolas worked at the Guam Attorney General's Office from February 2011 to January 2012, before coming back to work in the CNMI.

But the Fitial administration and the CNMI Office of the Attorney General said San Nicolas meets the residency requirement, as the nominee "never claimed residency in any other jurisdiction."

"Even during the time he worked in Guam, Mr. San Nicolas continued to be an active registered and participating voter in the CNMI," press secretary Angel Demapan earlier told *Saipan Tribune*.

It remains to be seen whether this concern will be raised during the Senate EAGI Committee's public hearing on the nominee.

Cruz said the EAGI Committee has asked the Senate legal counsel to review the constitutional provision on the residency requirement of an elected AG.

WWII

From Page 1

bombers. He had been Grant's student body president and was now an Army Air Corps bombardier, caught up in the war in the Pacific. He climbed down and stood in the shade underneath a wing. The little dog perked up and ran over.

Tom Bowen picked it up and thought for a moment. He rubbed some grit from the ramp onto the dog's fur, and maybe some black grease from a landing gear strut. The poor dog now looked like it had been through much more than being homeless. As the crew climbed onto a flight-line truck, Bowen had that wry grin his buddies knew well.

They and the crews that made it back that day shuffled into the Quonset hut to debrief the intelligence officer. Among them was Jack Cramer, a navigator on another bomber, also an Oregonian, who had been on the same mission. Bowen and Cramer were the only two from Oregon in their squadron.

Low-level fire bombing missions over Tokyo at night were harrowing for those in the air; certainly for those on the ground. As always, after each mission, shot glasses of whiskey were slid across the table to the aircrews along with a "Welcome back, fellas. Thanks."

Bowen held the little dog on his lap as the details of the bombing mission were told. The intelligence officer knew his wartime sense of humor. When finished, he asked, "OK, Bowen, what's with the dog?"

Bowen then wove fiction with fact.

The first bombers over the target had to brave the anti-aircraft barrage. The B-29s were flung around violently in the fire-bred turbulence. Some were upended and lost. Cinders, small chunks of charred wood and bits of burned newspaper were caught up in the strong, hot air currents. Over the inferno, when the bomb bay doors were opened, burned debris swept in. Back on Tinian, it was swept out by ground crews. This was all true, and had been reported by war correspondents.

With a deadpan, straight face, Bowen answered that on the return flight a crew member had found the dog wedged between braces in a corner of the bomb bay, and that they had managed to resuscitate the poor thing. He went on to confirm that the dog certainly was not on the aircraft when they took off.

Bowen offered the only plausible explanation, that the dog had been blown up into the air by an explosion on the ground and carried up into the bomb bay by extremely powerful thermal updrafts from the burning city. There were a few smiles. Certainly, none of the aircrews in the debriefing hut that afternoon, or on the island, believed the story. Knowing Bowen, Cramer certainly didn't. But, there were others in the hut.

This bit of humor found legs. Aircrews thought it was a good joke. But others believed it. The story was embellished and spread quickly over the island. Bowen and Cramer just quietly smiled when they overheard groups of soldiers and airmen talking about the Japanese dog found in a B-29 bomb bay. The story was locally famous.

But that would change.

Bowen and Cramer led remarkably parallel lives after first meeting in Nebraska for B-29 training. They arrived on Tinian on the same date, on different B-29s of the 9th Bombardment Group. They flew combined bombing raids together until they accrued the required number to merit rest and recuperation back in the United States.

They completed their 35th mission on the same day and rode on the same returning troop transport aircraft, landing in San Francisco. They even arrived back in Portland on the same train. Their parents, who did not know each other before the war, met them at Union Station on Aug. 6, 1945, an immensely significant date, the day an atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

Bowen and Cramer hadn't known that the guarded, extremely secure area of the airfield on Tinian, where the Enola Gay had been since early July, had held the nuclear means to end the war, and to change the nature of war forever.

Their lives continued on a parallel track. They went to the University of Oregon on the GI Bill. After they graduated, Cramer started a law practice; Bowen partnered to help run his father's insurance agency. Their offices were on Southwest 5th Avenue in Portland, just two blocks apart. They had lunch together nearly every day until Bowen retired, and they saw each other often until Bowen died in 1993.

In a final tribute to a very close war buddy, and their war-bonded friendship, Cramer flew back to Tinian Island and buried some of Bowen's ashes there.

Cramer's father, John Cramer Sr., was appointed the first president of Portland State University in 1955 and Cramer Hall is named in his honor. One of Bowen's sons, Kit Bowen, is a veteran of the Vietnam War. Cramer, who lives in Portland's West End, sees him often, veterans of wars a generation apart.

Some days after their return to Portland from the war, Bowen stopped at a newsstand and picked up the Aug. 13, 1945, issue of Life magazine. He leafed through it, stopped and let out a hearty laugh.

Accompanying a two-page photo spread of the aerial war over Japan was an article that included Bowen's prank as fact: "A low flying B-29 slammed through flying debris, later discovered that an unhappy Japanese dog had been blown through the bomb bay into the plane."

The Life magazine story became legend as part of the 9th Bomb Group's valiant and decorated history, retold again and again at veterans' reunions. The facts eventually unfolded within the ranks of journalism some years later --an unlikely wartime story fostered by a dog of war, and a boy from Portland. ***(Robert Wright)***

Editor's Note: This article was originally published in The Oregonian *on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012*

OIA

From Page 3

In fiscal year 2011 CUC got three consecutive grant awards that included $1.625 million for power generation improvement; $1.2 million for geothermal energy; and another $500,000 to pursue further geothermal alternative energy in the Commonwealth.

According to OIA's records, CUC was also a recipient of $4.5 million in reprogrammed funds: In fiscal year 2011, CUC got $1 million for its information technology upgrading and in fiscal year 2012 it got $3.5 million for other CUC improvements.

In a recent visit to the CNMI, Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* that OIA is still committed to helping CUC further improve its utilities and operation. He cited the desire of OIA to see a quicker and expedited efforts on geothermal energy to help defray the utility cost of customers. Babauta also wants to see 100 percent of CUC's customers provided with 24-hour water supply.

CUC remains under a state of emergency.

Wife of PH consul general Macaraig passes away

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

After lingering for several months in critical condition, the wife of Philippine Consul General Medardo "Dary" G. Macaraig of Saipan passed away at 2:53pm on Sunday.

Teresa Roselyn S. Macaraig, fondly known as Cherry, is also survived by daughters Anna Patricia and Raissa Marie. She was 47.

A native of Obando in Bulacan province, Cherry Macaraig suffered a massive stroke on Saipan in mid-May and was flown to St. Luke's Medical Center Global City where she received medical treatment. She was later moved to their family residence.

"The Lord has a great plan for all of us and we bow to His infallible will. I am sure Cherry shares the same feelings," said Medardo Macaraig in his Facebook post.

Macaraig

At the time of his wife's death, Dary Macaraig was in Malaysia where he now serves as Consul General at the Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur.

"It is unfortunate that after more than 18 years of marriage, I could not be with her during her last hours here on earth," he said. "But I am certain Cherry knows how much the kids and I love her and we know she loves us too. She will now have the chance to guide all of us close to our beloved Creator."

Dary Macaraig, who will fly back to Manila today, has asked his mother-in-law to make the funeral arrangements, which will be finalized once he arrives and will be announced soon.

"We thank the Lord for all the times she shared with us. We hope to join her one day to the place where there would be no more grief and sufferings and where we meet our great God," he said.

Cherry Macaraig's remains will lie in state at La Funeraria Paz in Quezon City, Philippines.

"We will miss her but we will remember all the times we had together and we will move forward with our lives, just like she would have wanted us to do," added Dary Macaraig.

Messages of sympathy, condolences, and prayers from Filipino community leaders and members flooded Dary Macaraig's Facebook account since he posted the news about Cherry's death on Sunday.

Dary Macaraig said friends are the family's source of strength to overcome the pain and suffering brought by his wife's death.

"My family and I are grateful for all the prayers, fond thoughts, and assistance you extended to us during these difficult times," he added.

Guam Consul Edgar Tomas "Gary" Auxilian, who took charge of the Saipan Consulate after Dary Macaraig left on Oct. 15 and is handling last-minute consular matters since the office's closure after Oct. 31, said in an interview that the Guam Consulate is deeply saddened with the passing of Cherry Macaraig.

"We are one with the Filipino community in expressing our deepest condolence and sympathy to the family of ConGen Dary. We are praying for ConGen Dary, especially their children, in this most difficult time of their life. We pray that the good Lord provide them strength and hope in the midst of these trying times. I know that with God's help, they will be strong enough to face this," Auxilian told *Saipan Tribune*.

In a statement, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said they join "with great sadness and heavy hearts" the people of the Commonwealth in mourning the loss of Cherry Macaraig.

"Before completing his tour of duty here, her husband, Consul General Macaraig, shared with us his profound love for his wife and the struggle she was battling to recover from her illness. She was truly an inspiration to him and a source of strength to ensure her husband served the Filipino community in the CNMI with dignity and integrity," the administration said.

"In this time of sorrow, we extend our sincerest condolences and prayers to Consul General Macaraig and his family and friends," the statement added.

Administrator mulled for new small business credit program

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of the directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority board recommended that the agency hire a staff for the State Small Business Credit Initiative program.

Marcie M. Tomokane said at the board's Oct. 26 meeting that the individual to be hired could serve three roles—administrator, program manager, and quality assurance and compliance officer—to ensure that the SSBCI, which is a new program, will be managed properly.

Tomokane said that having a specific staff to work on the program would ensure that CDA staff can focus on their daily duties and responsibilities, especially since the agency also needs work on certain areas such as cutting costs and increasing collections.

A program of the U.S. Treasury, SSBCI is funded with $1.5 billion to strengthen state programs that support private financing to small businesses and manufacturers to create successful models for state small business programs.

The Northern Marianas was allocated $13.1 million to jumpstart its SSBCI program, with the first of three disbursements amounting to $4.3 million already received and ready to be loaned out to interested borrowers.

At present, loan manager Oscar Camacho and economic development analyst Carline Sablan work with executive director Manuel Sablan to administer the program on the CDA side.

CDA entered into a memorandum of understanding with the CNMI Department of Commerce, which is the program applicant, while the Commerce secretary is the authorized official representative.

Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar, who was at the board meeting, pointed out that his agency normally hires a point-of-contact for every federal grant it administers.

For now, though, Commerce deputy secretary Ivan Blanco serves as "quasi-POC" for the agency, communicating with CDA staff on SSBCI matters.

Igisomar said that at the very least, a quality assurance and compliance officer should be employed to oversee Commerce and CDA on all compliance issues as mandated by federal regulations.

Of the $4 million SSBCI funding already disbursed, $200,000 is allocated for administrative fees to run the program, he said. Of this amount, $50,000 is budgeted for an administrator and another $40,000 can be set aside for a subcontractor or other related costs.

Should CDA decide not to hire an administrator for the SSBCI program, Igisomar said he, too, would be reluctant to hire a point of contact for Commerce.

Igisomar, during the meeting, also praised CDA for its decision to be "very conservative" in regards to the use of the disbursed SSBCI funding. He said this would prevent both agencies from encountering any issues should they become unsuccessful in carrying out the program.

He said that the U.S. trip of CDA's Oscar Camacho and Carline Sablan as well as Commerce's Blanco to attend the first SSBCI conference last month, which amounted to $10,000, was charged to the program's administrative fee account.

Double Deals of November.
Powered by Reliability and Superior Coverage.
HTC WILDFIRE
With super-social apps, ultra-fast web browsing and infinite ways to make it yours, the HTC Wildfire isn't just for anyone. It's just for you.
$49*
SAMSUNG FASCINATE
Galaxy with Android™ 2.1 OS • Super AMOLED touchscreen
Instant social networking capabilities • Faster texting with Swype®
$99*
Sale End November 19, 2012
*Some conditions apply • must sign up for 2-yr contract of Android 500 or higher
ANDROID 500 PLAN
$59 PER MONTH
500 AIRTIME MINUTES
UNLIMITED Local Text Messaging
UNLIMITED 3G Android Data
FREE Long Distance to the US, S. Korea
China, and more!**
** FREE Long Distance to US (Including Alaska & Hawaii) Canada, South Korea, Australia, Hong Kong & China
IT&E
Life in Motion
682-4ITE (4483)
www.ite.net
customercare@itehq.net
Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483)
Chalan LauLau Customer Care Ofc. • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza)
New Store Hours • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza) Tuesday to Saturday • 10:00AM - 6:00PM

Judge Camacho celebrates first year on the bench

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A year after his ascension to the CNMI Superior Court, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho looks back at the accomplishments he has made within and outside the bench and extends his gratitude to those who helped make his first year an easier one.

Camacho was appointed Superior Court associate judge by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Nov. 10, 2011.

In the courtroom, Camacho said he removed the backlog in the small claims docket by assigning separate days for the two law firms handling the bulk of small claim cases. Due to this, lawyers Michael White and Joshua Berger have now separate days to have their cases heard. In the past, both law firms were overlapping, causing many delays, according to the judge.

Camacho also said he removed delays and unproductive hearings in criminal cases by immediately setting the cases for trial. In the past, cases would take one to three years—sometimes more—before going to trial. At present, he said court criminal cases go to trial within four months.

Camacho

"I revamped the jury selection process so what used to take one to two days can easily be done within one to two hours. This is a positive thing. Potential jurors no longer have to wait days during jury selection," stated Camacho, adding that he had also given the Office of Adult Probation more discretion to revoke probations for violations.

To this effect, he said he eliminated unnecessary review hearings in criminal cases and probation officers now have more time for field visits to determine compliance instead of being tied to their desk drafting review hearing reports.

Outside the courtroom, as chairman of the CNMI Criminal Justice Information System, Camacho said he is working to put in place the hardware and software to allow the court and law enforcement agencies to communicate and share vital information. As an example, if a judge issues a bench warrant, a traffic officer on the street should get that information instantly. As with most things, he said funding is always limited but he will continue to work to get the system up and running by February next year.

As adviser to the CNMI Court Marshals, Camacho said they have improved much in terms of needed training and firearms certification for the marshals. He also revealed that the firearms policy and other standard operating procedures have been drafted and awaiting adoption by the Judicial Council, which will allow CNMI court marshals to carry out their duties of courtroom security and field work, serving warrants.

More plea bargains rejected

Though he said he was not trying to set a record in his first year, Camacho has rejected more lenient plea bargains than anyone else.

"A judge must balance the four cornerstones of sentencing: (1) rehabilitation, (2) deterrence, (3) retribution, and (4) incarceration. Unfortunately, most plea bargains are drafted to 'just make a case go away' without a realistic desire to see that justice is achieved. I reject so many lenient plea bargains because it is my view that there can be no justice without the appropriate punishment," said Camacho.

The judge's view on sentencing repeat offenders is simple. "The people of the CNMI deserve a safe community. Those who repeatedly choose to violate the law should not be surprised when they find themselves serving full maximum sentences. If you're a repeat offender, no more nonsense, no more excuses. You will do the max," he added.

Camacho said he has been blessed to have his hardworking courtroom clerk Roxanne M. Weaver and law clerk Eden Schwartz because cases are efficiently heard and decisions are expeditiously issued with their help.

"A heartfelt thank you to the court staff, justices, and judges for their assistance this past year. A special thank you to judge [David A.] Wiseman's secretary Vivian Dela Cruz who for one year continued to assist me, since for a year there was no budget to hire a secretary for me. And I am especially thankful to Judge Wiseman as our offices are next to each other, and for his wealth of judicial knowledge that he so openly shares," he added.

Saipan lawmakers amend dress code for sessions

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation amended its rules to allow the use of "island formal attire" besides the usual shirt-and-tie dress code during the delegation's official sessions, some two months before the 17th Legislature's term ends.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan), chairman of the delegation, said the amended rules maintain the existing dress code of "shirt, tie, slacks and shoes" for male members and employees.

But he said House Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) SNILD Resolution 17-6 adds another option, and that is the use of "traditional island formal wear."

"Now the question is what is island formal wear? It could be island print polo shirt, or the Hawaiian print as they call it, or the traditional wear if the members choose it, so they don't have to wear shirt and tie if they don't want to because it's hot. But members always have to be presentable during sessions," Tebuteb told *Saipan Tribune.*

Cabrera's two-page resolution says the use of island formal wear is "an alternative to wearing westernized formal wear consisting of a shirt, tie, slacks and shoes."

Tebuteb said the incoming 18th Legislature, however, may choose to adopt or change the dress code entirely.

Restaurants encouraged to join efforts to preserve environment

Restaurants on Saipan are being asked to join the effort to protect and preserve the CNMI's precious natural resources by participating in the annual "Eat Out for the Environment" on Nov. 30, 2012.

The "Eat Out for the Environment" is a fundraising activity organized by the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, whose mission is to conserve and restore the array of habitat that sustain the Commonwealth's natural biodiversity and heritage. The organization is composed of individuals who are passionate about preserving the environment and who consider environmental stewardship an important, lifelong responsibility.

In the "Eat Out for the Environment" event, participating restaurants agree to donate a percentage of their net revenue generated (from lunch and/or dinner) on Nov. 30, 2012.

In last year's "Eat Out for the Environment," participating restaurants included Shirley's, AOI (Saipan Grand Hotel), 360, Naked Fish, Shenanigan's, and Chambre Restaurant (Fiesta Resort & Spa).

"Last year's Eat Out for Environment was highly successful, especially with the support and generosity of the participating restaurants," said Sam Sablan, MINA executive director. "We hope that other restaurants join us this year for this very worthy cause."

Restaurant owners or managers who wish to be part of this important fundraiser are asked to contact Sablan at the MINA office at 233-7333 or visit www.minapacific.org. MINA will launch a marketing campaign aimed at increasing customer traffic on Nov. 30, 2012 and will also encourage customers to support participating restaurants throughout the year. ***(MINA)***

MHS senior joins national honor society

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School senior Carla S. Flores has been accepted into the prestigious National Society of High School Scholars.

The National Society of High School Scholars recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved academic excellence.

Flores was informed of her acceptance to the exclusive group by founder and chair Claes Nobel, the senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

Flores

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Carla has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence," said Nobel in his letter to Flores. He said Flores is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents the very best hope for the future.

Her membership entitles Flores to a variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, participation in programs offered by educational partners, and others.

Flores is the daughter of Carol and Lamberto Flores.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, she said it was her first time to be nominated and selected for the honor. Though the recognition is unexpected, Carla is grateful for the opportunity offered her.

Carla is a member of the Public School System's Youth Advisory Panel and an active member of her school's JROTC program. Despite being busy with her studies, the 17-year-old scholar is also a consistent volunteer in many community events and programs such as the United Filipino Organization-Saipan.

Carla dreams of becoming a member of U.S. Air Force someday.

The society was formed in 2002 and currently has more than 530,000 members in over 160 countries.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Zelma Alyssa DLC Santos, who has finally reached the legal age. May the Lord bless you on your special day and many more birthdays to come *kirida*! Greetings from your friends, family, and especially your favorite!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 12-037

Opening Date: Friday, 11/09/12
Closing Date: Until Filled

Petroleum and Compliance Manager

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director or designee, the Petroleum and Compliance Manager fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051. Position is known in the SO as the Technical Manager for Oil (TMO).

- The SO states: "The TMO shall be primarily responsible for overseeing, all oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis, as required by Stipulated Order. The TMO shall be the person responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding Section 311 CWA compliance issues…The TMO will have authority to make decisions for management and operations of oil related items required by Stipulated Order."
- Additional examples of duties may include but is not limited to:
  - Plan and implement, using resources provided by CUC or other agencies, all oil, fuels (whether waste or clean), projects and programs in accordance with accepted industry standards and practices.
  - Communicate regularly with USEPA, DEQ, USCG and other regulatory agencies to ensure that CUC is meeting relevant environmental regulations and laws pertaining to oil and fuels.
  - Troubleshoot problems of engineering or of a technical nature relating to oil that may arise in operations of CUC whether at the power plants, power transmission & distribution or water and wastewater divisions.
  - Prepare Capital Improvement Project (CIP) submissions as required in order for CUC to secure funding.
  - Prepare scope of work for oil projects whether outsourced (contracted) or performed in-house.
  - Oversee and inspect tanks, containments, berms, pipelines & appurtenances and all other facilities that pertain to oil and fuels.
  - Specify equipment and materials necessary for the proper management of oil and fuel including storage, containment, disposal, spill prevention, and clean-up.
  - Prepare specifications for oil-related projects that are bid out.
  - Coordinate spill response with other agencies such as the oil companies.
  - Arrange for analyses of oil and fuels including power distribution equipment with EPA-approved laboratories.
  - Supervise all oil clean-up, recovery, recycling or disposal activities at CUC.
  - Assist the Deputy Executive Director and/or Executive Director in responding to formal requests or orders from Federal or Commonwealth regulatory agencies.
  - Participate in CUC-wide strategic planning.
  - Maintain training and education certification related to oil work.
  - Ensure workers under supervision are trained and acutely aware of safety and environmental requirements.
  - Coordinate activities with the managers and supervisors at Power Generation.
  - Recruit necessary staff to ensure oil management functions are met.
  - Additional Responsibilities: Assist Water and Wastewater Divisions with technical support for water reservoirs and tanks; assist with other duties related to Stipulated Orders as requested by the Executive Director.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Successful candidates for CUC's Petroleum & Compliance Manager must have the following:

- "Completion of four (4) years of college, or its equivalent, with major work in engineering, science or other field related to work in engineering, science or other field related to work with project management and/or environmental compliance, and one (1) to three (3) years of experience with oil spill, prevention, preparedness and response, environmental assessment, construction oversight or power plant operations"
- "Proven management and communication skills"
- "Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff"
- "Experience with managing environmental and/or construction projects during period of planning, design, and construction"
- "Further, the TMO should have experience with one or more of the following: oil storage, use, transportation and disposal; assessment and cleanup of contaminated sites; environmental compliance; development of statements of work; oversight of contractors; staff training and development; and federal oil spill prevention, preparedness and response requirements."
- A CNMI driver's license or one from another U.S. jurisdiction is required.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:
Although not required, successful candidates preferably will have:

- Master's degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in civil, mechanical, or chemical engineering; Certification in API tank inspection;
- Management experience of at least ten (10) years in a multi-service utility, public works or petroleum tank farm operation.

SALARY INFORMATION:
Current salary and years of specialized experience will determine the appropriate salary level within the range of $70,000.00 to $130,000.00 per annum. This position is employed under a two-year contract and is both un-graded and un-classified.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $10,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:
To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:
   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA
   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" drop off your package.
2. Fax:
   670-235-5131
3. Drop Off:
   Drop off your package to the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES:
The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate any discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

Tribal Theory to headline United Nesia Fest on Saturday

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan will be filled with island reggae vibes this Saturday with the staging of United Nesia Fest: Coming Home Tour – Part 2 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

Tribal Theory, a reggae band from Southern California that takes pride in its Pacific Island roots, will serve as the main act. This San Diego-based band, which has established itself as one of the most sought-after live performing groups, was formed in 2005 and has been creating a music genre of their own, innovating reggae music with upbeat acoustics and original lyrics.

Members of Tribal Theory are Ajay Blount, lead vocals; Alex Lugwa, drums; Edrick Clark, bass; Henry "Kiki" Curiel, keyboards/vocals; Nico Tuilesu, lead vocals; Peter Paul Guerrero-Cruz, guitar; and Seuko "Ku" Hawkins, lead vocals.

The group boasts a multitude of performances under their belt, including opening for such well-known acts as Steel Pulse, The Wailing Souls, Barrington Levy, Gyptian, Collie Buddz, Fiji, J-Boog, Katchafire, Iration, The Green, Spawnbreezie, Anuhea, and Common Kings.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tribal Theory has established itself as one of the most sought-after live performing groups in Southern California.

Tribal Theory, which won the Battle of the Bands contest at the Warped Music Festival presented by Vans Footwear, also won the Garage to Glory band contest in a local television in San Diego.

"We're stoked and we're excited, whether it's something like the Warped Tour, which was pretty big for us, or a competition we're doing in San Diego, we're glad for anything we can do to let people know we're out there," Blount, one of the group's lead vocals, said in a statement about performing on Saipan for the first time.

Saturday's event is part of United Nesia Fest, a series of shows held in the mainland, gathering together various artists with Pacific Island ties to showcase their talents to compatriots abroad. Saipan holds the unique distinction of being the only place outside the U.S. to host the event.

Washington-based Island Trybe topbilled the first show held at Pacific Islands Club in October 2011. The three-member band brought the crowd to their feet during the sold-out concert.

This year, Betelnut Radio and Salbahe' Brand have partnered to bring to Saipan the United Nesia Fest: Coming Home Tour – Part 2, which would also feature local acts such as Tom Basa Jr., 15 Rootz, and veteran island musician Marvin Deleon Guerrero.

Tickets to the event cost $16 per person if purchased in advance or $20 at the door. They are available at Docomo Pacific along Middle Road or Boarderline Surf & Skate Shop at the Hafa Adai Shopping Center in Garapan.

Salbahe' Brand founder and creative director Rob Travilla noted that portions of the proceeds will go to the 2013 Marianas March Against Cancer. Other sponsors for this year's show are Marpac, Docomo Pacific, Budget Car Rental, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, KMMNWLTH Stars & Stones, Mestisu Visuals, KKMP Radio, Fiesta Resort & Spa, and Power 99.

For more information, call 989-0731 or email rob@salbahebrand.com.

Medicare Part D enrollment closes soon

There are less than 30 days remaining before the open enroll period for the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug insurance program closes on Dec. 7.

"We are encouraging those people that already have a red, white and blue Medicare Part A cards to enroll now to avoid a late penalty fee." said Raena Celis, Brabu Pharmacy's Customer Service supervisor. "Even if you have other insurance coverage you can decrease your present co-pays for prescription drugs by enrolling. Some of our customers that enrolled last year now have zero copays for many of their generic maintenance medications. We simply bill both your primary insurance and Medicare Part D. Our software system makes this incredibly easy."

This coming year the Medicare Part D premium will drop to just $9.60 per month as reported in the www.Medicare.gov website's Q&A page. Individuals who have already enrolled and receive a notice of a potential late penalty fee can ask for a waiver if they have other insurance coverage, including Medicaid.

"Just stop by Brabu Pharmacy and we will help you fill out the proper forms and submit them for you to have the penalty waived," said Brabu co-owner Kathy Yuknavage.

Individuals who do not have access to the Internet or prefer to talk to someone directly about the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug program can call Medicare by dialing 1-800-MEDICARE (633-42273).

"Just have your red, white and blue Medicare Part A card handy to provide your membership ID to the Medicare representative. They are very helpful and patient," said Yuknavage. "If you are hearing impaired or would like some help with the phone call, stop in to see us and we will be happy to assist you."

For more information or if you have other questions, call Brabu Pharmacy at 233-AMOT (2668). ***(Brabu)***

CNMI'S OWN

GUNG PHOTO/CPT KEN OLA
Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo, second from left, and Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General for the Guam National Guard, left, chat with two soldiers from the CNMI during the governor's recent visit to Camp Roberts, California. The soldiers, PFC Rita N. Taitano, right, and PFC Rabauliman, both from Kagman 3, are two of the 18 soldiers from the CNMI who are part of the 1-294th Infantry Regiment currently conducting their annual training at Camp Roberts. The battalion is scheduled to return home sometime in the middle of the month.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No.: 12-038

Opening Date: Friday, 11/09/12
Closing Date: Until Filled

IN-HOUSE LEGAL COUNSEL

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director, In-House Counsel is entrusted with several matters. For example, CUC's In-House Counsel:

- Provides formal and informal legal advice to management.
- Drafts and reviews a broad range of legal documents, including legal opinions, proposed agency decisions, memoranda, contracts and other procurement documents.
- Represents CUC at a variety of meetings, negotiations and hearings.
- Provides legal oversight of procurement contracts for goods, services and construction.
- Assists management with developing policy and regulations to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulatory policies, including both local and federal statutes.
- Investigates and implements necessary actions for compliance with laws and corporate policies.
- Works closely with outside counsel regarding ongoing litigation.
- Advises management of a variety of legal issues, including, but not limited to, billing disputes, human resource matters, property-related disputes, contract negotiations and interpretations, and personal-injury claims.
- Assists management with developing policy and regulations.
- Performs short- and long-range strategic planning.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
Successful candidates for CUC's In-House Counsel must:

- Hold a law degree from an accredited U.S. law school.
- Be a current member in good standing of the bar of any state within the United States, the CNMI or Guam.
- If not currently a member of the CNMI Bar, be eligible for prompt admission to the CNMI Bar. For admission requirements, visit http://www.cnmilaw.org/court_rules.htm.
- Have excellent interpersonal skills, be mature and self-sufficient, communicate effectively orally and in writing, and possess excellent professional judgment.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:
Although not required, successful candidates preferably will have:

- Experience with utility law, federal and/or state energy regulatory law, and government procurement.
- Contract drafting and negotiation skills.
- Familiarity with working in a highly regulated industry.
- An understanding of the economics of electric power.
- A working knowledge of the legal and commercial issues involved in procurement, construction contracts, project finance, operations and maintenance agreements, and other utility project agreements.
- Experience working for or appearing before a federal regulatory agency.
- Strong business judgment and the ability to understand and respond to business issues and needs.
- Self-motivation, self-discipline and be results-oriented, with an ability to manage priorities and workflow.
- The ability to independently, and handle both small and large matters with equal effectiveness and enthusiasm.
- A background in finance, accounting, engineering or economics.
- The ability to manage multiple complex matters simultaneously.

SALARY INFORMATION:
Current salary and years of specialized experience will determine the appropriate salary level within the range of $65,000.00 to $115,000.00 per annum. This position is employed under a two-year contract and is both un-graded and un-classified.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:
If hired from outside the CNMI, not to exceed $10,000.00 for relocation to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for relocation away from Saipan. Other conditions may be applicable.

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Nominations open for Employer Support Award

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, or ESGR, a Department of Defense agency, is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the department's highest award presented to civilian employers for support of their employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve.

Nominations may be submitted by Guardsmen, Reservists, or family members acting on their behalf, at www.FreedomAward.mil through Jan. 21, 2013.

Nearly one million Americans serve in the Guard and Reserve, making up almost one-half of the nation's total military. For more than 10 years, these citizen warriors have responded to unprecedented national security demands and humanitarian missions spanning the globe. The civilian employers of Guardsmen and Reservists have shared in their service to our nation by standing firmly behind employees, providing essential support and greater peace of mind.

"Employers of every size and industry continue to go to extraordinary lengths to demonstrate their unwavering commitment to employees serving in the Guard and Reserve," said James G. Rebholz, national chairman, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. "I urge all Guard and Reserve Service members who have benefited from their employer's support to nominate that employer for this most prestigious award. A Freedom Award nomination allows service members to acknowledge and thank their employer for the essential role they play in supporting their military career and in our nation's defense."

Each year, up to 15 of the nation's most supportive employers are selected as recipients and honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Past Freedom Award recipients supportive measures have included arranging childcare services for deployed employees, sponsoring trips to visit injured employees, and working longer hours to cover the shifts of employees at military training.

The ESGR Guam-CNMI Committee supports the more than 2,700 members of the National Guard and Reserves in Guam and the CNMI. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between service members and employers.

ESGR's local committee is supported by 18 volunteers and three staff members. ***(ESGR)***

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

Above, managers, business unit heads, and other executives of Tan Holdings pose for a group photo before the start of their tree planting event at Suicide Cliff last Oct. 31. A total of 150 flame tree saplings were planted in the area on Halloween Day as part of the 40th anniversary of the company this year. The event brought to 400 the number of flame trees that have been planted around the island.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Right, Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, left, presents a check donation to Mariana Islands Nature Alliance executive director Sam Sablan, second from left, and acting MINA board chair Frankie Eliptico, second from right, after the corporation's tree planting activity on Oct. 31 at Suicide Cliff. At right is Lina Dimaano, Tan Holdings' vice president for finance.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

POLARIS DEVELOPMENT CORP. is looking for:

- **ALL AROUND BEAUTICIAN (3 positions)** – Must have knowledge in all services provided in a Salon
- **MASSEUSE (1 position)**
- **BOOK KEEPER (1 position)** – with Bachelor's degree in Accounting and with background in financial preparation.

All applicants must have at least 2 years experience and must have excellent knowledge and skills on the category they are applying for.

- **GENERAL MAINTENANCE (3 positions)**

"Any applicant tentatively selected for these positions are required to submit and pass a drug test screening prior to employment."

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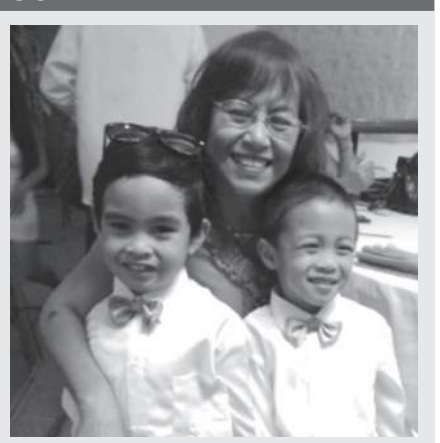
For more info please call Ms. Jojo Faller at 235-5598, 235-5599 or 483-1971.

WANTED AVON REPRESENTATIVE
and earn up to 20% to 50% commission. Please call Ms. Jojo Faller at 235-5599 or 483-1971.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy birthday to Mama Au Villegas, who celebrated her special day yesterday, Nov. 12, 2012. We wish you all the happiness in life, good health as always, and more years to come! We love you! Greetings come from Queen Anne, Daphne, Keeno, and Louis.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 13, 2000

CUC to clamp down on tampered meters

The utility agency is expected to clamp down on customers with tampered meter and illegal connections to reduce impact on revenue collections as operating expenses continue to rise in the next few months. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Board Chair Jesus T. Guerrero has ordered management to strictly enforce regulations against meter tampering in view of the financial woes confronting the government-owned corporation. "We don't want CUC to be on the losing side," he said when he issued the order last week. At present, the agency has about 108 customers who are not metered and are paying a flat rate for power and water services, most of them are buildings housing government offices.

Charfauros family sues US gov't for $100M

The estate of Jose T. Charfauros has filed a $100 million civil suit before the Superior Court on Tinian against the U.S. government for allegedly causing the death of Charfauros due to exposure to asbestos. A former U.S. Navy personnel, Charfauros was found to have significant exposure to asbestos causing him to have lung cancer which had spread to his bone and the pelvis. According to a medical report by Steven S. Wilson, assistant chief of the Department of Radiology at Tripler Army Medical Center, the lung cancer of Mr. Charfauros was most likely caused by the asbestos since he was a nonsmoker.

Nov. 13, 2001

PSS upbeat on teacher improvement

The Public School System is steadfastly working to elevate the quality of its classroom teachers through a series of remediation and in-service training programs. A report released by the PSS Human Resources Office last week indicated that out of 531 public school teachers in the system, only 38 percent or 204 hold Bachelor and/or Master degrees in Elementary Education. But the report noted some 52 percent of PSS teachers that hold degrees in content areas. These educators majored in specific course fields that are offered in junior and senior high schools.

Supreme Court introduces new operating procedures

The Supreme Court, in an administrative order issued last week, introduced new operating procedures, primarily establishing the Office of the Chief Justice's significant role in the review and approval of matters concerning the judicial system. The order, signed by Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and Associate Justices Alexandro C. Castro and John A. Manglona, mandates that all proposed rules governing civil and criminal procedure, judicial ethics and other matters of judicial administration be submitted to the Chief Justice for review, approval, and transmittal to the Legislature. The new judicial mandate also requires the presiding judge of the Superior Court and the Executive Director of the Law Revision Commission to submit the proposed budget of their respective offices with appropriate justifications not later than January 15 of each year.

Nov. 13, 2002

CUC spent $36K for overseas trips

Some $36,000 was used by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to fund the overseas travels of certain government officials, mostly lawmakers, in the last three years. CUC records showed that in 2000, five senators and a member of the House of Representatives traveled overseas on the utility firm's accounts. Their travel costs reached $22,161. The records showed that Sen. David M. Cing traveled twice: first to Sydney on Aug. 24 to 27, 2000, to tour water desalination facilities of the Aluminates Group; and to Guam from July 11 to 15, 2000, to tour facilities and meet officials of the Aluminates Group. He spent over $5,000 for both travels.

DPW solves Puerto Rico dump soil woes

Public Works Secretary Juan S. Reyes yesterday claimed that the department has solved Puerto Rico dumpsite's soil cover problem. Reyes said the DPW has also identified a source of soil that would be enough not only for the dump's daily cover but also for the closure of the decades-old facility. Tons of soil would come from the site of the Susupe Sports Complex Track and Field project being undertaken by the DPW. The project site covers several acres. "Right now, we are able to get a supply of topsoil from [the] Track and Field project," Reyes said in an interview. "We have excess supply of topsoil that's enough to cover most of our need. Hopefully, that will solve the problem."

Island Snapshots

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PASEO CLEANUP

Staff of Kinpanchi Restaurant and members of the Saipan Awaodori team have their picture taken just before doing their regular Saturday cleanup at the Paseo de Marianas and surrounding areas of western Garapan. The group collected 480 lbs of trash from Coral Tree Avenue to the Garapan Fire Station along Beach Road up to the Joeten Hafa Adai Center area.

CCA

PINKTOBER DONATION

Hard Rock Café officials turn over a Pinktober check to the Commonwealth Cancer Association at the CCA office in Gualo Rai. From left, Monissalyn Blas, trainee; Patricia Kaipat, trainee; David B. Rosario, CCA president; Dr. Jack Hardy, CCA adviser; Maggie Camacho, CCA treasurer; Kenneth Geronimo, HRC regional manager; and Ana Rose Ching, HRC Saipan restaurant manager.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Elisa Lazaro and Tarsila Balbin take out the dead plants and branches that were clogging the drainage along Beach Road. Approximately 30 volunteer-members of the Saipan Awaodori Team and employees of Kinpachi Restaurant took part in the cleanup.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cody Litulumar, Itheyvin, and Thyvianne They clean up the sidewalk of Coral Tree Avenue of trash that were composed mostly of candy wrappers, cigarette butts, tetra pack juices, beer cans, and bottles.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sabino Sanchez of the Saipan Awaodori team takes part in PDM Promoter's Saturday cleanup at the Paseo de Marianas. D&Q provided refreshments to the volunteers.

CCA

HOSPICE CARE FORUM

Members of the Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors, clergy of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, and pastors and ministers of the other faith denominations on Saipan attend the 3rd Hospice Care Forum on Spirituality on Nov. 8, 2012 at the Commonwealth Health Center conference room. Fr. Tom McGrath, SJ, chaplain of the Naval Hospital in Guam, was the main speaker. Marianas Heath Services and Marianas Visiting Nurses staff also attended. This forum was sponsored by the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXII, Issue No. 268

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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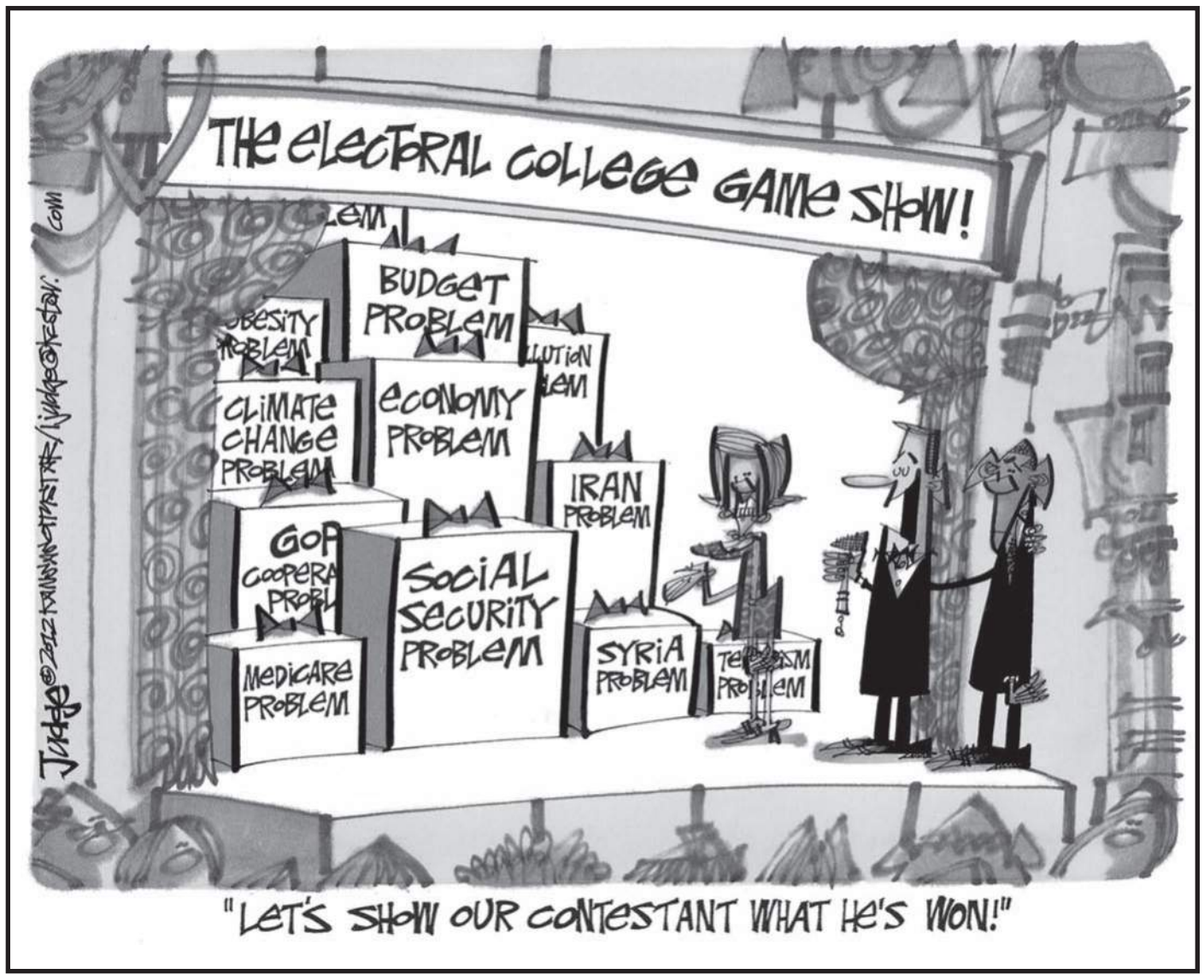

EDITORIAL

Obama, Republicans can find motivation to work together

So for all that cash (billions) spent to fund all that campaigning (relentless) and all those ads (millions), what do we get? The same president, the same party running the House and the same party running the Senate.

And the same problems confronting a divided nation, chief among them an inability to achieve solution through commonsense compromise.

Yet a second term for President Barack Obama does not have to yield the same pitched partisan warfare, dispiriting gridlock and economic stagnation. It could, of course, but in the spirit of optimistic realism, we will choose to believe that the leaders Americans sent to Washington can find their better selves in time.

Obama and the Republican challenger he defeated, Mitt Romney, touched on important themes of bipartisan cooperation in their remarks early Wednesday. Yes, political candidates, in victory or defeat, usually reach out to the opposition in the blush of voter decision. Too often, their words fade quickly in the face of governing.

Why should we expect any different now? Consider the motivations.

Obama won the Electoral College decisively. A tactically superior campaign strategy produced narrow triumphs in critical swing states, but fewer Americans voted for him than in 2008, leaving him short of the mandate he sought. The popular vote reveals a sharply divided nation, with little consensus on a way forward.

Importantly, he'll never again run for re-election. This puts him squarely in legacy-building mode, and if his inspiring pre-presidential words are a guide, he wants that legacy to be of a president who accomplished big things for the nation through persuasion, not force. For a politician of his skills, this is well within his grasp.

Republicans should be chastened after four years of fierce combat that often strayed into obstructionism. Spurred by a noisy tea party wing, they gained control of the House and little else, certainly not the White House. Their push to take the Senate this year actually left them with fewer seats, thanks in part to some incomplete, incompetent candidates.

They enter a needed period of soul-searching and must consider whether their rigid ideology and inability to broaden their reach is a sure and certain path to irrelevance: increasingly older, male and white in a nation that isn't. It's possible to build from principles without steering toward policies viewed as threatening by minority and women voters. Growth and prosperity are not extreme concepts.

The tasks ahead could prove daunting. The fiscal cliff hits almost immediately, with its sharp rise in taxes and slashed spending. The government is close to exceeding its debt ceiling again. Unemployment remains too high, a drag on economic recovery. Entitlement and tax reform are at once logical and distant. The same for immigration reform and a national energy policy.

Neither party has all the answers. Each has some, with the truth usually somewhere in between. By working together, they actually could achieve more.

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It appears that gay marriage won't destroy marriage

Over the last two decades (in particular, the 2004 presidential election), fear of gays was a highly successful wedge issue used to drum up election turnout among religious conservatives. In 32 states in which gay

See IT APPEARS on next page

The pivot takes a turn

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Obama in the last election was accused of being short on leadership. The Political Left thought him to have deferred too much to the captains of industries in the auto industry bailout program, and the financial qualitative adjustments (read, print more money) stimulus package to keep the market from crashing. The more militant parted ways early when he seemed to defer too much to moneyed interests, bending precariously too far without showing any gain in the effort.

The Political Right faulted him, aside from being a socialist in domestic policy, for apologizing too much to the world, not to mention their disdain for his allegedly being pro-Muslim v. Israel, and being anti-military in his reliance on diplomacy rather than bold military intervention. The latter was severely criticized when the U.S. ambassador to Libya died in what was a lapse in diplomatic security. He was also chastised for getting too much credit for Osama bin laden's assassination!

Obama's shift of military might from the 'Stans (i.e., Afghanistan) and Iraq/Iran, to the Pacific Far East, is characterized as a pivot turn. Deployed American forces heretofore split 50-50 between the Pacific and the Atlantic will now be 60/40, tilting on the Pacific side.

But the U.S. electorate did not re-elect the President on his pivot turn overseas. He was sent back with the clear message that the 1 percent might have spent their 1 percent of wealth (duh) to boost the Romney candidacy, but the impending financial cliff (a Bernanke jargon that the reader might just want to Google/wiki) cannot be laid on the shoulders of the middle class. Briefly, certain laws in place to cut federal deficit by Jan. 1, 2013, will kick in, with the U.S. economy projected to stagger on the drastic cut of federal spending on the one hand and increase of taxes on the other.

OK, so I have saddled the reader with three images: pivot turn, leadership, and the financial cliff. We will leave Obama and Congress to figure a way out of the legal conundrum of the cliff the Democrats and Republicans laid out on the budget when they were prodding each other on who would blink first.

We will look at the pivot, and our practice of leadership. We do so in the context of what is happening in the two leading countries in the world today, in economic development, political reform, and cultural awareness: the United Sates and China.

Obama took the basketball image of pivot turn to explain shifts. He means that the fundamentals have not changed as the anchor remains in place, but the nation can hook, jump shots, or pass the ball, in a turn it can decide.

Pivot in the *taiji* sense is not anchored on either the half of *yin* or the *yang*. The pivot point is actually invisible but in the middle of the swirling dialectic. Thus, the pivot point is a place of transparent freedom in a world of turmoil and revolution. In a passage in *Tao Te Ching,* 6th century BC Lao Tzu opined that the successful leader, after accomplishing a task, has followers congratulate themselves, saying: "We did it ourselves."

Obama, in both his background and actuations, leads in what Robert Greenleaf wrote about in the '70s servant leadership. Citing the ethics of Jesus as an example, the leader facilitates and enables others to serve likewise. This leads by looking at the requirements of those who will be led rather than on the leader's personal gain of status or social advancement.

A native distinction in West Africa defines a "slave" as one who waits for a master's command, while a "servant" discerns the need of the master, and facilitates the method to meet what is needed, often without the knowledge or consent of the master.

Obama's farewell to his campaign staff recognized the election as won by the ground game. Obama volunteers pounded pavements, knocked on doors, and staffed the phone lines. In his victory speech, community organizer Obama went on his trademark, Yes-WE-can stance, rather than the individual assertiveness of Yes-I-can genius.

China's form of collective leadership will be in place this week at the CPC National Congress. The open public discussion focused on the three-decade-long reform and opening up policy that Premier Wen Jaibao described in a 2011 speech in England as: *People's democracy is the soul of socialism. Without democracy, there is no socialism. Without freedom, there is no real democracy. Without guarantee of economic and political rights, there is no real freedom.*

The current code words include the "rule of law." A high profile weeding of corruption within the CPC's ranks toppled Politburo member Bo Xilai. Inclusiveness and openness are articulated, and collective leadership at the altar of service is unmistakable.

As in all critical times, the line between despair and hope is drawn clear. The pivot point is where transparent freedom to choose at every turn is made at the juncture of hope and despair. It means, free participation. A long time ago, it was called, life in the holy spirit!

These are the times! We are the People!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A change has come and it's deep

By JERRY LARGE
The Seattle Times

Jerry Large is a columnist for the Seattle Times*. Readers may send him email at jlarge@seattletimes.com.*

Demographics defined Tuesday's presidential election, and demographics have something to do with the impasse that will continue between the president and the Congress as they confront deep budgetary challenges.

Some divisions are clear on the surface. Mitt Romney was almost entirely dependent on white votes while President Obama won with a majority of minority votes and the support of white voters, particularly women and young people in urban areas. But something even deeper is at play and understanding that may offer a path to less divisiveness.

Jack Turner, an assistant professor of political science at the University of Washington, believes that some of our ideals got tainted early in our country's history and rescuing them would make us a better country.

During fights over the budget and throughout the campaign, the idea of individualism kept coming up. The claim that "I did it myself" versus the idea that we all help each other.

We heard that some people are hardworking and deserving while others—the 47 percent—aren't. What should be a legitimate argument over government spending becomes a fight over the worthiness of different Americans.

Turner recalled that in the aftermath of Obama's first election four years ago a chorus of media and political voices chanted "no more excuses." They said it was time for blacks and Latinos to stop complaining and take care of business for themselves.

That attitude ignores the challenges that many Americans still face, and it ignores the ways in which people who see themselves as independent benefit from government and from social advantages. That way of thinking is deeply rooted in the country's history.

Turner argues in his new book, "Awakening to Race: Individualism and Social Consciousness in America," (The University of Chicago Press) that individualism in a democracy doesn't mean every man for himself. It means taking responsibility for yourself, but it also should mean every person taking inventory of himself and his role in hindering or helping to fulfill democracy's promise.

Turner writes that the ideals of individualism and self-sufficiency are used as excuses for inaction, especially in the face of inequality. When our democracy was young, white men defined themselves as self-sufficient individualists. Dependency was for slaves. Those definitions became part of people's sense of identity, a group identity, not really individual at all.

If white represented one thing, then black had to represent the opposite. That explained and justified undemocratic treatment of people who were not white, and some of that lingers still.

Turner told me he spent his early years in Fort Worth, Texas, and wondered about the lives of the black people who worked for his family and who, at the end of their day, would go home to black neighborhoods. Why were their lives so different?

Turner said his father and grandfather were out-and-out racists, but that his mother "urged me to see black people as having the same hopes and aspirations as I had," and as deserving of a life as good as his.

"As a white man, I can apply to any job and not worry I might not be given fair consideration because of race," he said, but there are numerous strong social-science studies that show that African American's and Hispanics do have to worry about that. Turner writes, "By simply ignoring America's racial organization, upstanding white citizens can be on the winning end of job discrimination, school and housing segregation, and anti-black cultural symbolism while feeling perfectly innocent."

Moving forward requires citizens across the political spectrum to make a decision not to be complicit in continuing inequality, he said.

"It's not a matter of fault," Turner said. "It's a matter of responsibility."

Rapidly changing demographics mean nursing a sense of white superiority is not sustainable as a political strategy. Welfare-queen speeches, Willie Horton ads, food-stamp-president comments have increasingly limited appeal.

"We have an America undergoing vast changes," Turner said, "and we have to learn to deal with it in mature ways."

The next four years

By ED FEULNER
The Heritage Foundation

Ed Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation. Readers may write to the author in care of The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org.

Yes, conservatives are disappointed that a president who recklessly spent trillions, expanded government and put many of our values and institutions at risk has won a second term. But many of us have been here before. In Washington, there are no permanent victories or permanent defeats, just permanent battles.

Now is the time to stand up and declare we will continue to fight against big government and for freedom.

We will see unfold over the next four years a crucial battle for the soul of America. This struggle requires committed warriors for the cause. The line must be held against bad policy while we continue advocating conservative solutions. We must fight against the efforts to divide the country through class warfare.

We know that the First Principles reflected in our Constitution made this country great. Those principles are alive and well in the hearts and minds of the American people. We will work harder than ever before to defend them and to see them translated into the right public policies.

President Obama may have won an Electoral College victory, but he knows that he lacks a mandate for changing our nation according to his progressive vision. He is the first re-elected president since World War II not to improve his margin of victory and to get fewer Electoral College votes in re-election.

Let me be clear: President Obama does not have a mandate. But even so, he may claim he has a dictate to radically transform our country with his Euro-socialist agenda. We cannot allow him to get away with any such false claim or dangerous plan.

The president's much-diminished support should make clear to Mr. Obama that he lacks a mandate for radically transforming this country, and we hope that will be the case. Of course, given the record of the past four years, we are not holding our breath. So we must be ready.

We must be ready to seize opportunities and to make opportunities. There is the breakdown in Congress, a co-equal branch of government. Conservatives were re-elected to the House of Representatives, while Harry Reid and his friends still own the Senate. The status quo in Washington sadly still exists, and it is up to us to make sure that conservatives going forward present the clearest, most compelling contrast possible to the policies of the left. Conservatives must work with their allies in Congress to make this happen.

We will fight by offering the right policy proposals. From entitlement reform to national defense and energy policy, we will continue to fight for the solutions the country needs.

We have a lot of work to do. Obamacare is dragging down our already struggling economy. Our nation is going broke with a national debt of $16 trillion—a 60 percent increase under President Obama. We must stop our national binge of spending, taxing and borrowing.

We now immediately face a lame-duck Congress. The present House of Representatives must hold the line over the next two months and refuse to sign on to even more spending or higher taxes.

The Heritage Foundation has a comprehensive plan—Saving the American Dream—to reduce the size, scope and cost of government. It balances the budget within 10 years while maintaining a strong defense and without raising taxes. To achieve that goal, we must reform America's entitlement programs—Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security—if we want to save them.

It will not be easy. But the alternative is unthinkable. We cannot keep spending money we do not have.

Let us do what is best for America. Let us resolve to save the American Dream for our children and our children's children.

Let us build an America where freedom, opportunity, prosperity and civil society flourish and where an oppressive government does not hold anyone back or down.

IT APPEARS

From Page 28

marriage was put to a vote, its record was 0-32. Well into his first term, President Obama, who had declared himself a "fierce advocate" for gays and lesbians, delayed action on a campaign promise to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Long after Dick Cheney had declared his support for gay marriage, Obama's views on it were still "evolving."

Through those years, supporters of gay rights kept the faith by reassuring themselves that its opponents were on the wrong side of history.

Tuesday's election suggests that the faith was not misplaced: Two states, Maine and Maryland, passed referendums approving gay marriage. A third, Washington, will soon join them, once the tallying is complete. In Minnesota, a proposed amendment to the state Constitution that would have defined marriage as solely between a man and a woman was defeated. And seven-term congresswoman Tammy Baldwin was elected to the U.S. Senate from Wisconsin, making her its first openly gay member.

Six states have legalized gay marriage through court decisions or legislative action, so that makes that nine states that now don't stand in the creation of loving families.

It's a stunning turnaround: Tuesday's vote in Maine was a reversal of a ban on gay marriage voted in just three years ago. It was just four years ago that millions of Californians cast votes for Barack Obama and also for Proposition 8, which stopped implementation of a gay marriage law in the state.

What's happened? Actually, nothing. That is, allowing gays to marry in some states hasn't weakened traditional unions, and it didn't "recruit" young people to a "gay agenda."

The failure of gay-bashing as a political tool was apparent in the presidential campaign—in that it wasn't much mentioned. It may continue to be a topic in whispering campaigns, of course—and how could we have a mega-storm like Hurricane Sandy without some religious nut like that Maryland pastor calling it God's judgment on New York for legalizing gay marriage? But it has become a political loser.

In Wisconsin, Baldwin made history by defeating Tommy Thompson, a popular four-term former governor. Remarkably, Baldwin's sexual orientation did not appear to be an issue in the race—actual policy was. And Baldwin's successor in her congressional seat is one of five openly gay candidates who won election to the House of Representatives on Tuesday. As Ana Marie Cox of The Guardian put it, this is the new normal. "The effort it takes to convince someone to oppress someone else has become greater than the effort needed to maintain the status quo," she wrote.

Obviously, there is not going to be a stampede of states approving gay marriage anytime soon—for sure, not Pennsylvania. Anti-gay sentiment will still prove useful in some places. But to paraphrase Martin Luther King, the arc of the moral universe may be long, but it's bending toward justice.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What have we won?

Dear voters of Rota: I sincerely hope this election has taught us a grave lesson in reality! It was never about Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Victor B. Hocog, nor Felix M. Santos or Teresita A. Santos; rather, the elapsed election was about doing the right thing! Doing what was morally/ethically correct for Rota and the whole CNMI.

I have such disappointment and bad premonition regarding Rota's future now. The people of Rota were given a choice to make the best possible decision; however, political rhetoric and negative campaigning somehow prevailed! And now, my fellow Rotanese, what have we won? What actually and in reality have we won? I pleaded for morality to supersede personal vendettas and personal interests but those pleas fell on a majority of deaf ears! I hope to God, there's a realistic solution for Rota in the near future! I honestly question the sanity of those who voted for Vic-Terry, for in electing them into office, we are merely confirming what Fital said: We are "stupid!"

I for one am not "stupid" for I voted to end corruption and self-interest in our representation! Good luck and *hafa adai!*

Gus Maratita
Sinapalo I, Rota

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼76°

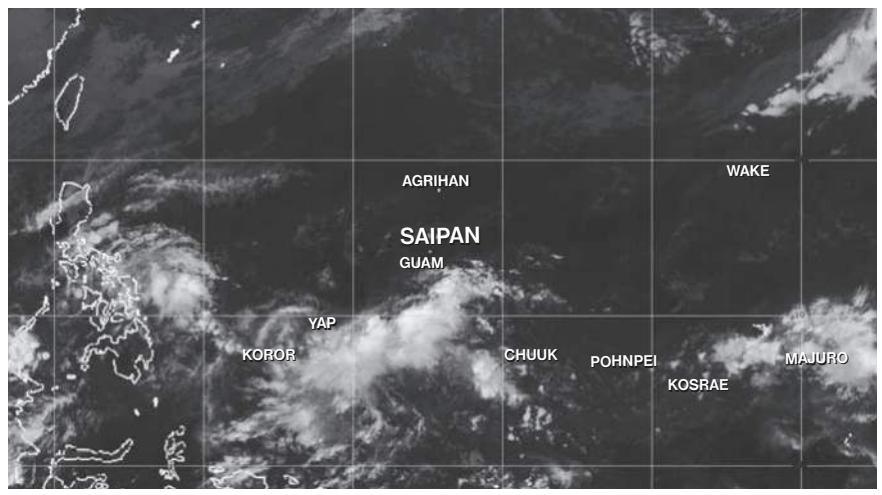
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Palau	Showers	▲87	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲87	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼55
Beijing	Sunny	▲48	▼26
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼73
Honolulu	Sunny	▲84	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼38
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲78	▼52
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼46
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼70
New York	Showers	▲54	▼36
Osaka	Sunny	▲56	▼48
Paris	Sunny	▲51	▼35
Pusan	Windy	▲57	▼41
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲69	▼53
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲55	▼46
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲46	▼34
Tokyo	Sunny	▲59	▼44
Washington, DC	Showers	▲51	▼38

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A nearly stationary front runs southwestward from 25N136E to beyond 130E at 22N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found well northwest of the Marianas along and up to 180 miles northwest of this boundary. A cold front extends southwestward from 25N172E to 22N159E then continues westward as a stationary front to 23N147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found northeast of Wake Island along and up to 200 miles northwest of the cold front northeast of 21N164E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found along up to 160 miles north of this boundary west of 2N164E. A monsoon trough stretches east-southeastward from near Mindanao through 7N130E to a circulation centered southeast of Yap at 6N145E then continues southeastward to the equator at 149E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located southeast of Yap and Koror within 250 miles of a line from 1N135E to 9N142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found southeast of Guam within 90 miles of a line from 9N143E to 13N149E farther southeast. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring mainly southwest of Chuuk between 10N and 2N from 147E to 153E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Kosrae and over the Marshall Islands between 10N and 6N from 163E to the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:40 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
7:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
12:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:18 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:13 AM	5:05 PM
Wednesday	6:18 AM	6:03 PM
Thursday	7:24 AM	7:05 PM
Friday	8:28 AM	8:08 PM
Saturday	9:28 AM	9:11 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCT. 27, 2012

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)			
UZ608	3:20am	6:35am	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)			
VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:10pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
OZ607	9:25pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN			
VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other week
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	11:25pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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Business

Japan economy shrinks as China dispute takes toll

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's economy contracted in the latest quarter, signaling that like Europe it may already be in recession, further weighing down world growth.

On an annualized basis, the world's No. 3 economy shrank 3.5 percent in the July-September quarter, in line with gloomy forecasts after Japan's territorial dispute with China hammered exports that were already weakened by feeble global demand.

The bad news will temper optimism over recoveries in China and the U.S., where some economists are predicting growth will top 3 percent in the third quarter. China's painful slowdown likely bottomed out in the third quarter, with recent indicators such as factory production and auto and retail sales showing improvement.

Japan's outlook remains bleak, with most economists forecasting a further decline in economic activity for the October-December quarter, which would officially put it in a recession according to the common definition of two consecutive quarters of contraction.

Consumer spending fell 0.5 percent in the third quarter, as subsidies for auto purchases expired, and corporate capital spending fell 3.2 percent. Spending on reconstruction from the country's March 2011 disasters has also weakened.

The drop for the current October-December quarter may not be as severe as that experienced in July-September.

AP

In this Oct. 26, 2012 file photo, a man inspects flat-panel TVs at a discount store in Tokyo. Japan said its economy contracted in July-September, foiling hopes for a rebound and signaling to many economists it may already be in recession.

"If the economy does recover in any way it will be a minute rebound," said David Rea, an economist in London with Capital Economics. He said the contraction in gross domestic product in the last quarter of 2012 could be a couple of percentage points.

More than two decades after Japan's asset bubble burst in the early 1990s, its policymakers have yet to devise an effective strategy to help the economy break out of its deflationary funk. Meanwhile, the Japanese yen remains stubbornly high, discouraging its companies from investing at home and undermining its export competitiveness, especially against rivals Germany and South Korea.

Strangled by weak consumer spending and public investment, the economy grew at an anemic 0.7 percent annual pace in April-June, according to figures that were revised down by half from the originally reported 1.4 percent.

Until recently, the government was still forecasting growth at about 2 percent for the year. It had predicted a turnaround late in the year, but the renewed tensions with China over disputed islands in the East China Sea, coupled with sluggish growth in Europe and other key export markets, have doused hopes for a significant rebound before 2013.

A slew of dismal recent data releases offers little encouragement.

Squeezed by surging costs for imported fuel and sinking exports, Japan's current account surplus plunged to 2.72 trillion yen ($34 billion) in April-September, its lowest level since monthly data began in 1985, as the trade deficit surged.

Although Japan will likely continue to run current account surpluses for some time to come, its decline is a stark reminder of the country's persisting reliance on exports to support its energy-intensive standard of living through massive imports of food, fuel and other resources.

Adding to the squeeze on pocketbooks from hikes in electricity rates, winter bonuses for employees are falling by an average of 4 percent this year.

Machinery orders for September fell twice as fast as expected. Meanwhile, the job market softened, likely hurting prospects for stronger consumer spending to help offset weak exports. Slower-than-anticipated government spending on reconstruction has further undermined demand.

Japan's local governments are running short of funds as lawmakers dicker over legislation needed to authorize bonds to pay for deficit financing.

Alaska ice tested as possible new energy source

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—A half mile below the ground at Prudhoe Bay, above the vast oil field that helped trigger construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, a drill rig has tapped what might one day be the next big energy source.

The U.S. Department of Energy and industry partners over two winters drilled into a reservoir of methane hydrate, which looks like ice but burns like a candle if a match warms its molecules. There is little need now for methane, the main ingredient of natural gas. With the boom in production from hydraulic fracturing, the United States is awash in natural gas for the near future and is considering exporting it, but the DOE wants to be ready with methane if there's a need.

"If you wait until you need it, and then you have 20 years of research to do, that's not a good plan," said Ray Boswell, technology manager for methane hydrates within the DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory.

The nearly $29 million science experiment on the North Slope produced 1 million cubic feet of methane. Researchers have begun the complex task of analyzing how the reservoir responded to extraction.

Much is unknown but interest has accelerated over the last decade, said Tim Collett, a research geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver.

U.S. operators in Alaska, he said, may want to harvest methane so they can re-inject it into the ground. Crude oil is more lucrative than natural gas, which is routinely injected into North Slope fields to maintain underground pressure to aid in oil extraction. Japan, Korea, India and China, however, want to cut down on natural gas imports by burning methane. Japan is setting up for a production test on a gas hydrate accumulation in the Nankai Trough south of Honshu, its main island.

"That will be the first marine gas hydrate test anywhere in the world," Collett said. The U.S. Energy Department describes methane hydrate as a lattice of ice that traps methane molecules but does not bind them chemically. They are released when warmed or depressurized.

Methane comes from buried organic matter after it's ingested by bacteria or heated and cooked. The gas migrates upward, under high pressure and low temperature, and can combine with water to form methane hydrate.

Greece passes 2013 austerity budget

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greek lawmakers approved the country's 2013 austerity budget early Monday, an essential step in Greece's efforts to persuade its international creditors to unblock a vital rescue loan installment without which the country will go bankrupt.

The budget passed by a 167-128 vote in the 300-member Parliament. It came days after a separate bill of deep spending cuts and tax hikes for the next two years squeaked through with a narrow majority following severe disagreements among the three parties in the governing coalition.

Prime Minister Antonis Samaras pledged that the spending cuts will be the last Greeks have to endure.

"Just four days ago, we voted the most sweeping reforms ever in Greece," he said. "The sacrifices (in the earlier bill and the budget) will be the last. Provided, of course, we implement all we have legislated. "

"Greece has done what it was asked to do and now is the time for the creditors to make good on their commitments," he stressed.

Athens says that with the passage of the two bills, the next loan installment, worth (EURO)31.5 billion (about $40 billion), should be disbursed. Without it, the government has said it will run out of cash on Friday, when (EURO)5 billion ($6.35 billion) worth of treasury bills mature.

Finance ministers from the 17-nation eurozone are meeting in Brussels later Monday, with Greece high on the agenda. However, German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble has indicated it is unlikely that the ministers will decide on the disbursement at that meeting.

"We all ... want to help Greece, but we won't be put under pressure," Schaeuble told the weekly newspaper Welt am Sonntag.

Schaeuble said the so-called troika of debt inspectors likely won't deliver their report on Greece's reform program by Monday. The creditors also want to see what the debt inspectors have to say about Greece's debt sustainability.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Taiwan's HTC settles patent disputes with Apple

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—HTC Corp. and Apple Inc. have settled their outstanding patent disputes. In a joint statement Sunday, the two companies said they also signed a 10-year license agreement that will extend to current and future patents held by one another. Cupertino, California-based Apple and Taiwanese smartphone maker HTC had battled over the patents for various smartphone features since March 2010. Apple was claiming that HTC phones running Google's Android software had infringed on patents it held. HTC chief executive Peter Chou says ending the litigation will allow his company to focus more on product innovation.

Royal Dutch Shell shuts down Nigeria oil pipeline

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Royal Dutch Shell PLC says it has shut down a pipeline in Nigeria's oil-rich southern delta after finding leaks it blamed on oil thieves. In a statement Sunday, Shell said its Nigerian subsidiary shut down the Imo River trunk line which had six "theft points." It said the shutdown of the line would cut production by about 25,000 barrels of oil a day. Shell said sabotage has been responsible for 25 of 26 spills on the Imo River this year, which released nearly 3,000 barrels into the river and other waterways. Shell produced about 800,000 barrels of oil a day in Nigeria last year.

PepsiCo to launch Pepsi with fiber in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Fruits, vegetables and wheat bread are all sources of fiber. Now, so is Pepsi-Cola in Japan. PepsiCo Inc. on Tuesday plans to launch a version of its namesake soda with a fat-blocking fiber called dextrin in Japan. In an announcement on the company's Japanese website, PepsiCo explains how dextrin helps reduce fat levels in blood. A representative for PepsiCo based in Purchase, N.Y. was not able to provide other details about the drink. The drink, called Pepsi Special, isn't the first cola with fiber in Japan. The Japanese company Kirin also offers a sugar-free cola with dextrin. Kirin's website says the cola is targeted toward health-conscious men in their 30s and older.

Nation

Congress wants answers on Petraeus affair

WASHINGTON (AP)—Members of Congress said Sunday they want to know more details about the FBI investigation that revealed an extramarital affair between ex-CIA Director David Petraeus and his biographer, questioning when the retired general popped up in the FBI inquiry, whether national security was compromised and why they weren't told sooner.

"We received no advanced notice. It was like a lightning bolt," said Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, who heads the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The FBI was investigating harassing emails sent by Petraeus biographer and girlfriend Paula Broadwell to a second woman. That probe of Broadwell's emails revealed the affair between Broadwell and Petraeus. The FBI contacted Petraeus and other intelligence officials, and Director of National Intelligence James Clapper asked Petraeus to resign.

AP

This July 13, 2011, photo made available on the International Security Assistance Force's Flickr website shows the former Commander of International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan Gen. Davis Petraeus, left, shaking hands with Paula Broadwell, co-author of "All In: The Education of General David Petraeus."

A senior U.S. military official identified the second woman as Jill Kelley, 37, who lives in Tampa, Fla., and serves as an unpaid social liaison to MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, where the military's Central Command and Special Operations Command are located.

Staffers for Petraeus said Kelley and her husband were regular guests at events he held at Central Command headquarters.

In a statement Sunday evening, Kelley and her husband, Scott, said: "We and our family have been friends with Gen. Petraeus and his family for over five years. We respect his and his family's privacy and want the same for us and our three children."

A U.S. official said the coalition countries represented at Central Command gave Kelley an appreciation certificate on which she was referred to as an "honorary ambassador" to the coalition, but she has no official status and is not employed by the U.S. government.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the case publicly, said Kelley is known to drop the "honorary" part and refer to herself as an ambassador.

The military official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to publicly discuss the investigation, said Kelley had received harassing emails from Broadwell, which led the FBI to examine her email account and eventually discover her relationship with Petraeus.

A former associate of Petraeus confirmed the target of the emails was Kelley, but said there was no affair between the two, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the retired general's private life. The associate, who has been in touch with Petraeus since his resignation, says Kelley and her husband were longtime friends of Petraeus and wife, Holly.

Attempts to reach Kelley were not immediately successful. Broadwell did not return phone calls or emails.

Petraeus resigned while lawmakers still had questions about the Sept. 11 attack on the U.S. Consulate and CIA base in Benghazi, Libya, that killed four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens. Lawmakers said it's possible that Petraeus will still be asked to appear on Capitol Hill to testify about what he knew about the U.S. response to that incident.

Rep. Peter King, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said the circumstances of the FBI probe smacked of a cover-up by the White House.

"It seems this (the investigation) has been going on for several months and, yet, now it appears that they're saying that the FBI didn't realize until Election Day that General Petraeus was involved. It just doesn't add up," said King, R-N.Y.

As days without power drag on, frustration simmers

NEW YORK (AP)—New Yorkers railed Sunday against a utility that has lagged behind others in restoring power two weeks after the superstorm that socked the region, criticizing its slow pace as well as a dearth of information.

About 120,000 customers in New York and New Jersey remained without power Sunday, including tens of thousands of homes and businesses that were too damaged to connect to power even if it was running in their neighborhood. More than 8 million lost power during the storm, and some during a later nor'easter.

Separately, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano visited with disaster-relief workers Sunday in Staten Island's Midland Beach neighborhood, which is still devastated two weeks after Sandy hit.

The lack of power restoration for a relative few in the densely populated region at the heart of the storm reinforced Sandy's fractured effect on the area: tragic and vicious to some, merely a nuisance to others.

Perhaps none of the utilities have drawn criticism as widespread, or as harsh, as the Long Island Power Authority. Nearly 50,000 of the homes and businesses it serves were still without power Sunday evening, and 55,000 more couldn't safely connect even though their local grids were back online because their wiring and other equipment had been flooded. It would need to be repaired or inspected before those homes could regain power, LIPA said.

"We certainly understand the frustration that's out there," LIPA's chief operating officer, Michael Hervey, said in a conference call late Sunday. But, he said, the storm had been worse than expected, no utility had as many workers in place beforehand as it would have liked, and the power was coming back rapidly "compared to the damage that's been incurred."

Customers told of calling LIPA multiple times a day for updates and getting no answer, or contradictory advice.

"I was so disgusted the other night," said Carrie Baram of Baldwin Harbor, who said she calls the utility three times a day. "I was up till midnight, but nobody bothered to answer the telephone."

Baram, 56, said she and her husband, Bob, go to the mall to charge their cellphones, and Bob, a sales manager, goes there to work. They trekked to her parents' house to shower. At night, they huddle under a pile of blankets and listen to the sound of fire engines, which Baram assumes are blaring because people have been accidentally setting blazes with their generators.

"It's dark," said an exasperated Baram, "it's frightening, and it's freezing."

LIPA has said it knows that customers aren't getting the information they need, partly because of an outdated information technology system that it is updating. Sunday, executives said they were working on setting up information centers near the most heavily damaged areas. The company also said it had deployed 6,400 linemen to work on restoring power, compared to 200 on a normal day.

Nation pays tribute to sacrifices of veterans

LOS ANGELES (AP)—From sea to shining sea, the nation paid tribute to its members of the armed services Sunday, both with somber traditions such as a Virginia wreath-laying ceremony attended by President Barack Obama to honor those who didn't make it back from active duty, and more lighthearted perks including red-carpet treatment at Las Vegas casinos for those who did.

In California, a long legal case drew to a close as a war memorial cross that had been deemed unconstitutional was being resurrected Sunday in the Mojave desert, capping a landmark case for veterans fighting similar battles on public lands.

Sunday marked the official commemoration of Veterans Day, but the federal holiday will be observed Monday.

President Barack Obama laid the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia and noted that this is the first Veterans Day in a decade with no American troops fighting and dying in Iraq, and that a decade of war in Afghanistan is coming to a close.

In a speech at the Memorial Amphitheater, he said America will never forget the sacrifice made by its veterans and their families.

"No ceremony or parade, no hug or handshake is enough to truly honor that service," the president said, adding that the country must commit every day "to serving you as well as you've served us."

He spoke of the Sept. 11 generation, "who stepped forward when the Towers fell, and in the years since have stepped into history, writing one of the greatest chapters in military service our country has ever known."

Over the next few years, he said, more than 1 million service members will make the transition to civilian life. "As they come home, it falls to us, their fellow citizens, to be there for them and their families, not just now but always."

Later, the president and his wife, first lady Michelle Obama, and Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, greeted families in the cemetery's Section 60, home to graves of service members killed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In California, a war memorial cross that once stood on a rocky hilltop in a national park before being deemed unconstitutional and ordered removed was being resurrected in the stunningly stark Mojave desert, marking the end of a longstanding legal dispute that had become entangled in patriotism and religion.

Henry Sandoz, who cared for the original cross as part of a promise to a dying World War I veteran, will rededicate a new, 7-foot steel cross on the same hilltop. The site is now in private hands as part of a land swap with the National Park Service that ended the legal battle.

"Judges and lawyers may have played their roles, but it was the veterans who earned this memorial, and it is for them it rises once more," said attorney Hiram Sasser of the Texas-based Liberty Institute, which represented veterans in the legal fight.

The settlement approved by a federal judge in April permitted the Park Service to turn over the acre of land known as Sunrise Rock to a Veteran of Foreign Wars post in Barstow and the Veterans Home of California-Barstow in exchange for five acres of donated property elsewhere in the 1.6 million acre preserve, about a four-hour drive east of Los Angeles.

The donated land was owned by Sandoz and his wife, Wanda, of Yucca Valley.

Sandoz has cared for the memorial as a promise to World War I veteran Riley Bembry, who with other shell-shocked vets went to the desert to help heal and erected a wooden cross on Sunrise Rock in 1934. It was later replaced with a cross made of steel pipes.

ACROSS THE NATION

Deadly blast devastates Indianapolis neighborhood

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Splintered beams and boards on a piece of charred earth were all that remained Sunday where at least two Indianapolis homes were leveled in a blast that killed two people and rendered homes for blocks uninhabitable. A backhoe raked through the rubble in the middle-class subdivision as clusters of firefighters and rescue workers weary from a long, chaotic day that began late the night before waited for their next assignment. The two-story, brick-faced homes on either side of those demolished by the blast were ruins. One home's roof was gone, a blackened husk left behind. On the other side of the gap, the side of a home was sheared off. Across the street, garage doors had buckled from the heat. It wasn't yet clear what caused the blast that shook the neighborhood at 11 p.m. Saturday. Residents described hearing a loud boom that blew out windows and collapsed ceilings. Some thought a plane had crashed or that it was an earthquake.

Man held on murder charge at Arizona jail missing

PHOENIX (AP)—A man being held on murder and robbery charges at an Arizona jail was discovered missing Sunday, and authorities don't know if he escaped from his cell or is hiding somewhere at the sprawling complex, which also contains America's self-proclaimed toughest sheriff's famous "tent city." Authorities have launched a manhunt for 26-year-old Adan Orduno Jr., who Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio described as a violent "troublemaker." They're also searching the county's approximately 600,000-square-foot south Phoenix jail, which has a section where all inmates are housed in surplus military tents.

Asia

Australia troops eyed to join US-PH drills

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine defense officials said on Sunday that they have discussed the possibility of Australian forces joining large-scale combat exercises between Filipino and American troops in the country.

The Australian forces' possible inclusion in the annual "Balikatan" exercises, which involve thousands of American and Filipino troops, would expand the U.S.-Philippine drills that have infuriated China whenever they were held in the past near the South China Sea. China and five other Asian countries have been locked in territorial disputes in the potentially oil-rich region.

Filipino and Australian defense officials discussed the proposal in a recent meeting in Manila. The two countries have sought to considerably expand joint military exercises since the Philippine Senate ratified in July the Status of Visiting Forces Agreement, which allows Australian forces to join combat exercises in the Philippines.

The Philippines has a similar 1999 pact with the United States, which is a treaty ally.

American and Philippine forces hold large-scale combat exercises in the country every year. Hundreds of American counterterrorism troops have been allowed to stay in the country's volatile south since 2002 to train Filipino soldiers battling al-Qaida-linked militants.

Philippine defense department spokesman Peter Paul Galvez said the proposal to include Australia in the "Balikatan" exercises was at a preliminary stage and would need to be discussed with the U.S. military.

Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin told The Associated Press early this month that Australian Defense Minister Stephen Smith plans to visit early next year to discuss joint field exercises that would include training in natural disasters and containing terrorism and other threats.

The presence of foreign troops is a sensitive issue in the Philippines, a former American colony. The Philippine Constitution forbids foreign troops from being permanently based in the country, and the Senate must ratify agreements governing temporary visits by outside forces.

AP

Filipino security men stand guard as Australian guided missile frigate HMAS Sydney is docked at Manila's south harbor pier, Philippines on Monday Oct. 22, 2012.

Strong quake strikes Myanmar, 12 feared dead

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A strong earthquake of magnitude-6.8 struck northern Myanmar on Sunday, collapsing a bridge and a gold mine, damaging several old Buddhist pagodas and leaving as many as 12 people feared dead.

A slow release of official information left the actual extent of the damage unclear after Sunday morning's strong quake. Myanmar has a poor official disaster response system, despite having lost upward of 140,000 people to a devastating cyclone in 2008.

Myanmar's second-biggest city of Mandalay reported no casualties or major damage as the nearest major population center to the main quake Mandalay lies about 117 kilometers (72 miles) south of the quake's epicenter near the town of Shwebo.

Smaller towns closer to the main quake's epicenter were worse hit.

The area surrounding the epicenter is underdeveloped, and casualty reports were coming in piecemeal, mostly from local media. The region is a center for mining of minerals and gemstones, and several mines were reported to have collapsed.

The evening news on state television showed Vice President Sai Maul Hkam visiting the town of Thabeikyin, where the report said damage included 102 homes, 21 religious buildings, 48 government offices and four schools. The town, a gold-mining center, is near the quake's epicenter and had casualties of three dead and 35 injured. The report brought total officially confirmed casualties to six killed and 64 injured.

Independently compiled tallies suggested a death toll of about a dozen.

An official from Myanmar's Meteorological Department said the magnitude-6.8 quake struck at 7:42 a.m. local time.

The U.S. Geological Society reported a 5.8-magnitude aftershock later Sunday, but there were no initial reports of new damage or casualties.

State television warned residents that aftershocks usually follow a major earthquake and told people to stay away from high walls, old buildings and structures with cracks in them.

The biggest single death toll was reported by a local administrative officer in Sintku township—on the Irrawaddy River near the quake's epicenter—who told The Associated Press that six people had died there and another 11 were injured.

Sri Lanka opposition calls prison deaths massacre

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's main opposition party described the deaths of 27 inmates after a prison riot as a "cold-blooded massacre" and demanded a parliamentary investigation. Authorities have said the prisoners died in a shootout.

Mangala Samaraweera, a lawmaker for United National party, said that he had information that most of the prisoners killed during Friday's clash had been gunned down by police commandos and soldiers.

"It's a massacre that has to be condemned. It shows the breakdown of the rule of law in the country," Samaraweera said Sunday.

"Information I have is that most of the prisoners were cold-bloodedly gunned down."

He said the party has called for a parliamentary committee to be appointed to investigate.

Officials have said the clash erupted when prisoners attacked a search team that went into the Welikada Prison facility in Colombo looking for narcotics and communication devices. The prisoners armed themselves by breaking into the armory, they said.

On Friday night, the prisoners were seen holding up assault rifles from the rooftop and throwing rocks at officials.

Forty-two others, including police commandos and soldiers, were wounded.

Opposition lawmaker Samaraweera said it was illegal for the military to have been deployed in the prison.

The opposition also says that prison clashes are frequent in Sri Lanka and their causes must be examined.

At least two suspects died following another prison revolt in June, and human rights campaigners alleged they died after being beaten by guards. They were suspected to have been linked to the now-defeated Tamil Tiger rebels who waged a quarter-century separatist war that ended in 2009.

The government promised an inquiry in that incident, but there has been no result.

Other, less-deadly clashes also took place at Welikada earlier this year and also in 2010.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Gunman in Afghan uniform kills British soldier

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A gunman wearing an Afghan army uniform shot and killed a member of the U.S.-led coalition forces fighting in Afghanistan—the latest in a spate of insider attacks that are fracturing the trust between NATO and Afghan forces. Separately, officials said 11 Afghan civilians were killed by land mines on Sunday in the east and south. The U.K. Ministry of Defense confirmed that the insider attack had claimed the life of a British soldier from The Royal Scots Borderers, 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland. It said the soldier was shot by an individual wearing an Afghan army uniform at his base in the Nade-e Ali district of Helmand province.

Engine problem forces Emirates landing in Sydney

SYDNEY (AP)—An Emirates flight from Sydney to Dubai made an emergency landing shortly after takeoff because of an engine fault, the airline said Monday. Passengers reported hearing a loud bang and seeing flames coming from the engine of the Airbus A380 after it took off from Sydney on Sunday night. The plane landed without incident and passengers were rebooked on other flights. There were no injuries. John Fothergill of Auckland, New Zealand, told Australia's News Limited that he saw flames shooting out of the engine and felt the plane shake.

World

Syrian opposition groups reach unity deal

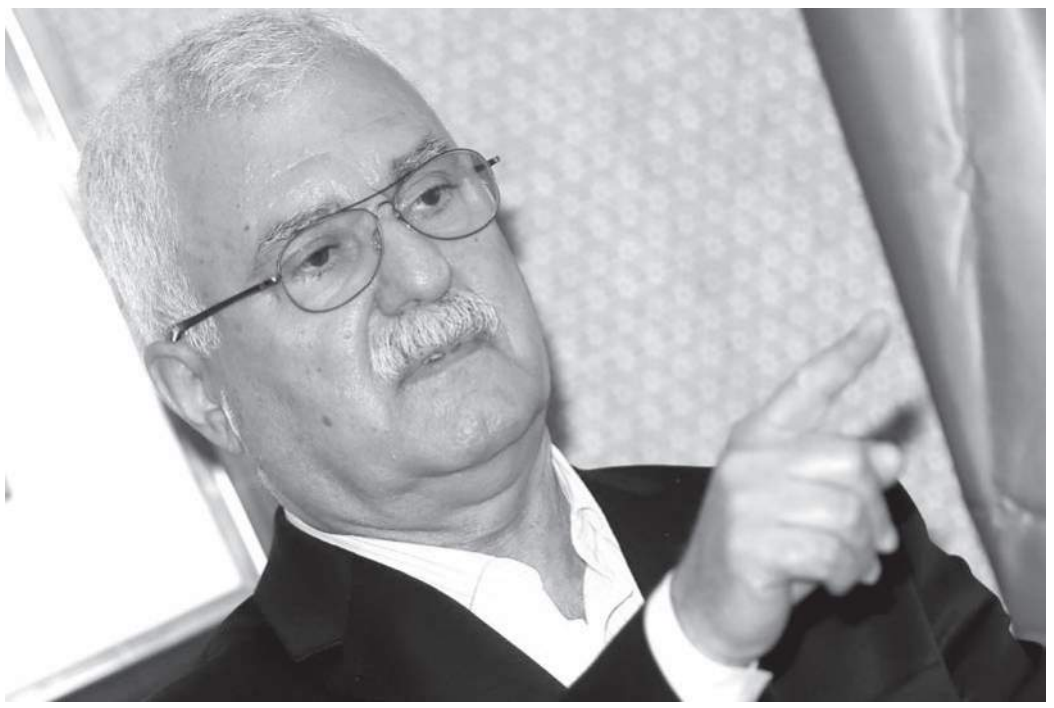
DOHA, Qatar (AP)—Syrian anti-government groups struck a deal Sunday under intense international pressure to form a new opposition leadership that will include representatives from the country's disparate factions fighting to topple President Bashar Assad's regime, activists said.

The opposition has been deeply divided for months despite the relentless bloodshed in Syria and repeated calls from their Western and Arab supporters to create a cohesive and representative leadership that could present a single conduit for foreign aid. The agreement, reached Sunday after more than a week of meetings in the Qatari capital of Doha, could boost efforts to secure international support—and potentially weapons—that will be crucial in the war to oust Assad.

"We have agreed on the broad platform and all (opposition) parties, without any exception, support this initiative," said Ali Sadr el-Din Bayanouni, a former Syrian Muslim Brotherhood leader who took part in the talks.

He said the new leadership will be called the Syrian National Coalition for Opposition and Revolutionary Forces.

Later Sunday, the delegates elected Islamic preacher Maath al-Khatib president of the new coalition. Leading opposition figures Riad Seif and Suheir Atassi were elected vice presidents.



AP

George Sabra, the new head of the main Syrian opposition bloc in exile, the Syrian National Council, speaks to reporters during a press conference on the sidelines of the General Assembly of the Syrian National Council meeting in Doha, Qatar, Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012.

Mustafa Sabbagh was voted the coalition's secretary-general.

Al-Khatib said opposition fighters are "searching for freedom," claiming that if any carried out improper acts, it was because of the "regime's brutality."

He said the Syrian rebels will avoid acts of revenge in the future, noting that many soldiers security officers are "honorable people whom we call them upon to defect from the corrupt regime."

In a bid to be more representative and curb the influence of exiles considered out of touch with events on the ground, the new coalition will include activists from inside Syria as well as rebel commanders.

It will also include representatives from the largest current opposition group, the Syrian National Council, which initially resisted the idea of a new leadership council, viewing it as a threat to its claim of primacy. After some wrangling, the SNC secured 22 of the 60 seats in the new coalition.

SNC secretary-general Bassam Ishak said, "This new body will help up mobilize more international support and resources for the Syrian opposition," he said.

Another SNC member, Wael Merza, said the new group had the support of major regional backers including Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Turkey, which can open up "new channels for funding."

Al-Khatib, 52, is an Islamic preacher from the capital Damascus who was detained several times since the uprising began on charge of supporting anti-government groups. He ran as an independent.

He was once the preacher of Damascus' historic Ummayad Mosque and heads the Islamic Modernization Group.

Al-Khatib is known as a moderate who has called for political pluralism and strongly opposes sectarian divisions among Syrians.

Naming him as a president of the coalition could be a move to counter Muslim extremists who are gaining power among rebel groups.

Seif, 66, was a member of the so-called "Damascus Declaration" group—a coalition of pro-democracy activists that came into existence after Assad came to power in 2000.

Seif is one of the country's most prominent opposition figures. He was released from prison in July 2010 after years in jail for anti-government activities.

He was arrested for the first time in 2001 for criticizing Assad and sentenced to five years in prison. He was re-arrested in January 2008 and sentenced to two and a half more years on charges of "weakening national sentiment," a term usually used to mean carrying out anti-regime activities.

Syria had previously banned Seif from travel, a measure regularly taken against dissidents. In 2007, the U.S. State Department urged Syrian authorities to allow him to leave the country to receive medical treatment.

Seif told The Associated Press in 2007 that refusing to allow him to seek treatment abroad for prostate cancer was "like being sentenced to a slow death."

Atassi comes from an influential family from the central city of Homs. She has been an outspoken critic of Assad for years and was arrested days after the uprising began while taking part in an anti-government protest in central Damascus.

The SNC was formed last year but quickly came to be viewed as ineffective and out of touch with activists and rebels fighting a bloody war on the ground.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton harshly criticized the SNC late last month and called for a leadership that can rally broader support, including inside Syria.

After the agreement was signed, the foreign ministers of Turkey and Qatar, Ahmet Davutoglu and Hamad bin Jassim, joined the conference. Davutoglu said claims of divisions among the opposition "are over now."

Tunisian Foreign Minister Rafik Abdessalem said the new coalition "is a major achievement on the road to a new Syria."

Israel drawn into Syria fighting for first time

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel was drawn into the fighting in neighboring Syria for the first time Sunday, firing warning shots across the border after an errant mortar shell landed near an Israeli military installation in the Golan Heights.

While Israel appeared eager to calm the situation, its response was a potent reminder of how easily the Syrian civil war—already spilling across borders with Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan—could explode into a wider regional conflagration.

Israeli officials threatened even tougher retaliation if attacks persist.

They have feared that the instability in Syria over the past 19 months could spill across the border into Israel, particularly as President Bashar Assad's grip on power grows increasingly precarious.

Israel has little love for Assad, who has provided refuge and support to Israel's bitterest enemies through the years. But the Syrian leader—and his father before him—have kept the frontier quiet for nearly four decades, providing a rare source of stability in the volatile region.

The Israeli military said the mortar fire caused no injuries or damage at the post in the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 Mideast war and then annexed.

In recent weeks, incidents of errant fire from Syria have multiplied, leading Israel to warn that it holds Syria responsible. Israeli officials believe most of the fire has come from Syrian government forces, although they think it has been inadvertent and not been aimed at Israel.

After responding to Sunday's mortar strike, the Israeli military moved quickly to defuse tensions.

"We understand this was a mistake and was not meant to target Israel, and then that is why we fired a warning shot in retaliation," said Lt. Col. Avital Leibovich, a military spokeswoman. Defense officials said an anti-tank missile was fired, and there were no reports of casualties in Syria.

The Israeli military also said it filed a complaint through United Nations forces operating in the area, stating that "fire emanating from Syria into Israel will not be tolerated and shall be responded to with severity."

Israel, Gaza militants trade fire in escalation

JERUALEM (AP)—Israeli forces struck targets in the Gaza Strip on Sunday, killing one Palestinian and wounding more than 30 others as militants launched dozens of rockets in some of the heaviest fighting the area has seen in months.

The flare-up increased pressure on the Israeli government to put an end to the violence, which escalated over the weekend and could turn into a major conflagration just two months before the country's general election.

Israeli leaders quickly amped up their rhetoric, warning Gaza's Islamic Hamas rulers they will pay a heavy price should they allow rocket fire toward Israel to continue.

"The world must understand that Israel will not sit idly in the face of attempts to attack us," said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "We are prepared to intensify the response."

Low-level cross-border fighting is common in the border area, but clashes escalated Thursday night when an explosives-packed tunnel under the Gaza-Israel frontier blew up, in what the Israeli military called an attempt by Palestinian militants to kill or kidnap soldiers. Palestinians said the blast was a roadside bomb to avenge the death of an 11-year-old boy who was shot dead earlier in the evening during an exchange of fire with Israelis.

Then on Saturday, militants fired an anti-tank missile into an Israeli military jeep patrolling the border fence, wounding four soldiers—one critically. Casualties of that order are rare for the Israeli military in clashes with Gaza militants.

In response, Israel launched airstrikes that have killed six Gazans and wounded almost 40. Palestinian rocket and mortar barrages have wounded four Israeli civilians and kept a large swath of the country running for cover. The military said more than 80 rockets had landed in Israel and 12,000 Israeli students stayed home from school on Sunday. Later in the day, the military said a Palestinian rocket made a direct hit on an Israeli home in the town of Sderot. No injuries were reported.

WORLD BRIEFS

African leaders agree to send troops to north Mali

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—West African nations on Sunday agreed to send some 3,000 troops to help the country of Mali wrest back control of its northern half, which was seized by al-Qaida-linked fighters more than six months ago, according to an official involved in the discussions, and a statement read on Nigerian state television. The decision came late Sunday at the end of an emergency summit in Nigeria's capital of the Economic Community of West African States, or ECOWAS. They were joined by military experts from the United Nations, Europe as well as ministers from Algeria, Mali's neighbor to the north which has previously been against the military intervention. The plan needs final approval from the U.N. Security Council before it can be carried out. An official involved in the negotiations said by telephone shortly after the meeting that the nations in West Africa are now unanimous in their decision to go forward with the military operation. He said that they will attempt one more round of negotiations with representatives of the Islamists controlling northern Mali, before moving ahead with the intervention.

Ireland votes to strengthen children's rights

DUBLIN (AP)—Official returns show that voters have approved an amendment to insert stronger rights for children into Ireland's constitution with a narrower-than-expected 57.4 percent "yes" vote. Only a third of registered voters participated in Saturday's referendum, reflecting a low-key campaign. All political parties and children's charities supported the "yes" side. Prime Minister Enda Kenny said Sunday the amendment will allow his government to pass laws making it easier for Irish children to be adopted, for courts to remove children from abusive homes and for children to testify in court. Analysts say the unexpectedly high "no" vote reflects low turnout among "yes" voters, anti-government feeling, and a surprise Supreme Court ruling. Ireland's highest court found that the government's information booklet on the children's rights amendment was biased and violated referendum law.

Focus

AP

President Barack Obama waves as he walks on stage with first lady Michelle Obama and daughters Malia and Sasha at his election night party Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, in Chicago.

How Obama victory could affect areas of US economy

Upper-income Americans may face a tax increase. Auto fuel economy standards might be raised. Stocks of construction and engineering companies could benefit.

America's decision to re-elect President Barack Obama over Mitt Romney will affect all that and other elements of the U.S. economy and financial system—from the health care law to the overhaul of financial rules.

At the same time, a gridlocked Congress will limit Obama's influence. Tuesday's election kept Republicans in control of the House. Democrats still control the Senate, but without a commanding majority.

Here's how Obama's re-election could affect key sectors:

■ ECONOMY:

Obama has laid out some key themes for rejuvenating the economy: Extend Bush-era tax cuts for low- and middle-income Americans. Spend more to build and repair roads, bridges and other public structures. Provide targeted tax breaks to businesses.

Most immediately, Obama needs to persuade congressional Republicans and Democrats to reach a budget agreement to prevent the economy from falling off a "fiscal cliff." Without a deal, deep spending cuts and tax increases will start to kick in next year.

The combination of those measures could send the economy back into recession and drive the unemployment rate back up to 9 percent next year, according to estimates by the Congressional Budget Office. The rate is now 7.9 percent.

Analysts warn that Congress must break its stalemate for the economy to sustain its recovery.

"There will be a lot of brinksmanship, and that will hurt the economy and likely upset the financial markets," Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said Wednesday.

Still, the urgency of the crisis could "generate the political will necessary to get the deal done," Zandi said. And that could mean "much, much stronger growth" by 2014.

Others caution that even if the fiscal cliff is averted, the economy may continue to be hampered by slow growth, stagnant pay and modest job gains.

"Obama's re-election does not change the bigger economic or fiscal picture," Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics, said in a research note. "Over the next couple of years, the U.S. economy will remain saddled with an uncomfortably high unemployment rate and will struggle to grow by more than 2 percent a year."

The president has pledged to cut projected deficits by $4 trillion over 10 years. He says he'd do so in part by raising the tax on investment gains. He would also raise income tax rates for individuals who earn more than $200,000 and married couples who earn more than $250,000. And a minimum 30 percent tax would be imposed on incomes above $1 million.

■ STOCKS:

Stock prices plunged Wednesday in the aftermath of the election. Investors appeared rattled by the impending U.S. tax increases and spending cuts and Europe's deepening recession.

Over the long run, though, the stocks of construction and engineering companies might get a lift during Obama's second term. The president has said more spending on roads, bridges and public buildings will boost the economy. If Obama's victory helps Democrats gain seats in Congress, he'll have more support for such spending.

Other categories of stock might stumble. Financial companies had hoped to weaken rules imposed after the 2008 financial crisis. Obama's victory may ensure that the rules will remain intact. Companies will have to keep spending to make sure they comply with them.

Obama also wants to tax dividends at a higher rate. That could make financial stocks, which often pay high dividends, less appealing to investors.

Defense stocks might suffer because Obama wants to limit the growth of military spending. And some energy companies may fall because some investors think his administration will tighten pollution regulations that affect energy extraction and coal-burning power plants.

■ AUTO INDUSTRY:

Obama will likely seek to further boost fuel economy standards. He's already raised the standards twice. This year, he required automakers to double their vehicles' average fuel economy to 54.5 miles a gallon by 2025.

Obama set an ambitious goal in 2011 to put 1 million electric vehicles on the road by 2015. Fewer than 30,000 electric cars have been sold in the United States this year. He wants to raise a $7,500 tax credit for electric cars to $10,000.

The president has asked the World Trade Organization to rule on Chinese subsidies for autos and auto parts and its import duties on U.S. autos. He's awaiting a decision.

■ ENERGY:

The boom in U.S. oil and gas production during the president's first term will likely continue, thanks largely to new drilling techniques. But drilling could slow if the Environmental Protection Agency toughens rules governing a controversial technique called hydraulic fracturing.

Obama backs the idea of a federal clean-energy standard that would require the country to use more low-carbon energy sources, such as wind and solar for electricity and advanced biofuels and batteries in cars.

But Republican opposition is so strong it's doubtful Obama could muster enough support in Congress for it. There would be bipartisan opposition to any administration effort to regulate emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases that scientists say contribute to climate change.

■ HEALTH CARE:

Obama's victory preserves his health care overhaul, which aims to cover millions of uninsured Americans. The law requires everyone, with certain exceptions, to have insurance or pay a penalty. It calls for the expansion of Medicaid. And it requires online exchanges where people can shop for coverage.

Health insurers, which have struggled to increase enrollment in a tough economy, will gain new customers. But the industry pays for that growth. Insurers will have to cover fees totaling $8 billion in 2014 and topping $14 billion by 2018. Those fees will go to the government to help cover the cost of expanded care.

The law also limits how much insurers can vary pricing based on age and health.

"In the past, it was relatively easy to just absorb increases in health care costs and pass them through to customers via higher premiums," said Matthew Coffina, a Morningstar analyst who covers health insurers. "That equation is sort of breaking down now, which is forcing them to be more careful on the cost side, to try to contain costs in whatever way they can."

Drugmakers and hospitals may get a boost. Hospitals typically provide charity care to uninsured people and are reimbursed for only part of it. Now, they'll be paid through insurance for more people. And drugmakers will benefit from the law because starting in 2014, millions more will gain prescription coverage.

Still, drugmakers will have to give the government rebates on drugs bought through Medicaid. And they must give discounts to the elderly that will rise over time.

Obama's re-election also likely means medical device makers will start paying a 2.3 percent tax. They vowed to continue lobbying Congress to try to head off the tax.

"There may be an opportunity to address the tax before it goes into effect on Jan. 1," said J.C. Scott, chief lobbyist for AdvaMed, the industry's main trade group.

■ FINANCIAL REGULATION:

The 2010 overhaul of financial rules marked a victory for Obama. Officials who are still carrying out the details of the law may now be more likely to take a tough stance.

One example is an oversight plan for derivatives—complex investments that speculators use to make bets and companies use to hedge against risk. Financial companies have fought for looser rules and exceptions for derivatives used by farmers who want to lock in prices before a harvest.

Obama's victory means financial companies, which mostly backed Romney, might lose influence in these negotiations. His re-election also figures to embolden the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The bureau aims to protect people from hidden fees and other unfair practices by financial companies.

Republicans want to give Congress authority over the bureau's budget. But without the presidency or a stronger majority in either chamber of Congress, they won't likely be able to slow the bureau's crackdown on banks, payday lenders and others.

■ TECHNOLOGY:

Obama signed into law the America Invents Act to streamline the U.S. patent process. The idea was that inventors and entrepreneurs could turn their ideas into products more quickly and create inexpensive ways to resolve disputes.

Despite the law, major technology companies such as Apple, Google and Microsoft are locked in battles over the scope of their patents, particularly for smartphones and tablet computers. Tech companies and entrepreneurs say further patent reform is needed.

The president so far has resisted pressure to lower or temporarily waive corporate income taxes on the more than $1 trillion U.S. companies have piled up in overseas accounts from sales there. Many are tech companies that are keeping most of their cash offshore.

Some of the biggest hoards of foreign cash are held by Apple ($82.6 billion), Microsoft Corp. ($58 billion), Cisco ($42.5 billion) and Google ($29.1 billion). All favor a tax holiday so they could return the money to the United States without paying a huge bill to the government.

Obama hasn't ruled out a tax holiday. But he's indicated he'd consider it only as part of a broad tax overhaul.

Overdrive

Nissan GT-R has supercar speed, performance at bargain price

By BARRY SPYKER
THE MIAMI HERALD

After my first, shall we say, spirited ride in Nissan's top performance animal, the GT-R, I sat in the driveway for a moment waiting for that nasty grin on my face to disappear. Shutting down this twin-turbo beast sounded like a jet engine as it whirs slowly to a halt.

Back came the grin. How appropriate to hear this supersonic sound from a machine that soars from 0-to-60 in… wait for it…a neck-jarring 2.7 seconds. The quarter-mile in 11.1 seconds. And a top speed of 196 mph.

That's Ferrari and Bugatti Veyron territory for a fraction of the price—which has gone up for 2013, but more on that later.

Nissan has beefed up power on the GT-R every year since it came out in 2009, so, yes, another tweak was due for 2013. Its 3.8-liter, twin-turbo V-6 produces 545 horses—up from 480 horsepower four years ago—and 463 pound-feet of torque.

Also revised: the transmission, though it still comes across a bit clunky around town. Maybe this beast is just showing its impatience to get out on the open road.

Suspension tuning has been refined on the top-line Black Edition, but even more impressive on the Black this year is a handmade carbon-fiber rear spoiler. It's standard, too.

So are the orange Brembo 6-piston brake calipers up front (4-piston rear), the Bilstein electronic shocks and 20-inch aluminum wheels—with black finish, of course.

This all-wheel-drive cat is happiest when it can run, and it leaps to triple-digit speed in a flash. It'll run from 50 mph to 100 in just a few seconds, too. But its stiffer springs and overall structure help it negotiate the twisty roads or racetrack with tenacious grip and precision, too.

Steering is smooth and responsive, though the GT-R's weight—nearly two tons—keeps it from being as agile as, say, a Porsche 911.

Around town, this speedster is not as well behaved as on the highway or track. Despite improvements to the tranny, it's still a bit quirky and indecisive at slower speeds. But paddle shifters mounted on the column offer quick shifts and plenty of fun. For sports car purists, however, be forewarned: No manual is available.

There are three settings that control the transmission shift points and suspension: Normal, Comfort and Race. The race setting broadens the shifts up the power band. You'll also likely discover that the suspension is too stiff for everyday driving.

NUTS & BOLTS

2013 Nissan GT-R:
- **Base price: $96,820**
- **Price as tested: $106,320**

I didn't get the GT-R on a track but I've read its famous understeer is alive and well, though reports are that its track performance is improved from the 2012 model.

All this speed and fun comes at a price; here come the mpg figures. But hold on; it's not terrible at 16 around town, 23 on the highway with a combined figure around 19 mpg. That's high for a smaller car but in the ballpark of your other car, the SUV. But, hey, the GT-R has a much higher fun quotient.

The GT-R has good, racy looks, but one could argue that it is somewhat common, not as sharp as those elegant supercars with emblems of horses and bulls on the front. But it's built to perform not win a beauty contest.

The two-tiered grille channels air to the intercooler and also is designed to reduce front lift. On the lower corners are scoops to cool those sizable Brembo brakes.

Perhaps it looks better from the rear, sporting quad exhausts and the dry carbon fiber spoiler.

The carbon fiber accent continues inside on the center console. Buttons are easy to reach and use.

The cabin has pretty much everything you need, but doesn't stack up to the pricier sports-car entries even though it can keep with them on the road. It's improved when you opt for the Black Edition, starting with red and black Recaro seats that tuck you in for the tight corners.

The real kick is the information center contained on an LCD screen. There is data and virtual gauges to provide all the dirty details: lateral and longitudinal g-force, lap times, coolant and oil temps. A data system can even record your performance at the track for review later.

Seats have 8-way power and, amazingly, appear to be comfortable for longer drives, too. Headroom and legroom are sufficient, even for six-foot-plus guys like me. Not so in the rear, which can accommodate kids or packages only.

Trunk space? Not bad, actually, with an 8.8-cubic-foot well that should handle most reasonable weekend chores.

Visibility from within is not only adequate, but there is a rear-view camera to help out when backing up.

Beyond that, standard safety features include dual-stage frontal air bags plus side-impact air bags up front and full-length side curtain bags. The GT-R also has traction and stability control and antilock brakes with brake assist, which applies more pressure when needed.

Only two trim levels are available: the Premium and Black editions. I drove the Black and it has everything the Premium does, plus lightweight black wheels with Dunlop run-flat tires, carbon-fire wing and the aforementioned Recaro seats.

Both versions are stacked with goodies like 20-inch wheels, Brembo brakes, electronic suspension, power seats and 11-speaker Bose sound system CD, satellite radio, iPod and Bluetooth connectivity. And the nav system includes traffic and weather reports.

The GT-R has been on American roads for five years, and every year improvements are made and the horsepower rises. For 2013, the price rises, too—by nearly $7,000. Yikes, you say.

But the Nissan GT-R still remains the best bang for the buck when you consider the high-priced company it keeps on the open road or the racetrack.

Nissan has beefed up power on the GT-R every year since it came out in 2009 so, yes, another tweak was due for 2013. Its 3.8-liter, twin-turbo V-6 produces 545 horses – up from 480 hp four years ago – and 463 pound-feet of torque. Also revised: the transmission, though it still comes across a bit clunky around town.

MIKE DITZ/NISSAN/MCT

Mazda to build small car for Toyota

By JERRY HIRSCH
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Pursuing a strategy of working with other automakers, Toyota Motor Corp. said Friday that it will have Mazda Motor Corp. build a small car for the Toyota brand.

The subcompact, which will be sold in the U.S., will be based on Mazda's tiny Mazda2, a car that competes with the Ford Fiesta, Hyundai Accent, Chevrolet Sonic and Honda Fit.

Toyota said Mazda will build about 50,000 of the yet-unnamed cars at a plant that's under construction in Mexico and set to open in late 2014. The cars, which will be sold as a Toyota, will go on sale sometime in 2015, the company said.

Toyota did not provide much information about the vehicle and would not say if it will replace the Yaris, a similar-sized car that Toyota builds in Japan.

"Through the agreement, TMC aims to strengthen its North American vehicle lineup, while Mazda aims to increase production efficiency and contribute to its profitability," the companies said in a statement.

The deal allows Toyota to add to its North American production and, depending on what it does with the Yaris, substitute a car that's built in the region and benefits from the North American Free Trade Agreement for one that's built in Japan and has a higher shipping expense as well as a foreign exchange rate penalty because of the strength of the yen.

Though getting good marks for reliability, the Yaris generally gets poor reviews from the automotive media. Through the first 10 months of this year, its sales have lagged rivals. Toyota has sold about 26,000 units. During the same period, Honda has sold about 42,000 Fits, Ford has sold 47,000 Fiestas and Chevrolet has sold 70,000 Sonics.

A Toyota spokesman said the company was not commenting on the future of Yaris or where this new vehicle would fit in the lineup other than to say that it is a sub-compact car that won't be sold for three years.

UNDER THE HOOD

Cars getting smarter all the time

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: I was wondering just how smart new cars are, computer-wise. Are they as smart as my smartphone or laptop?—Gene Lathrop

ANSWER: I'm not qualified to answer your second question but can have a lot of fun sharing what I've learned regarding the first.

Modern cars and trucks are super-smart. They adapt to driver styles, environmental conditions and degraded component operation in order to provide the smoothest acceleration, idle and shifts. Your powertrain control module, or PCM, scrutinizes each transmission shift, looking at the rate of rpm change on input and output shafts. If it's not perfect, hydraulic pressure is adjusted for the next clutch application, and again if needed until it becomes just right.

The PCM also looks at a huge number of engine inputs to infer exhaust emission compliance. Should anything comes to light that could mean emission levels will be exceeded, the dreaded "check engine" light is illuminated and a code is set indicating close to the exact cause. A record of the actual driving conditions present at the time is also recorded, for the servicing technician's benefit.

The climate-control system shares information with the navigation and safety systems in order to determine your course, time of day, sun load and sun position, and where people are sitting. Adjustments are made to left, right or rear air temperature delivery to compensate for not just cabin temperature, but how the sun feels. Built-in diagnostics monitor component function and indicate specific faults, should they occur.

Your safety systems are another area brimming with smarts. Seat sensors indicate occupant weight and position, allowing appropriate control of airbags. Should a passenger slump against the door, perhaps napping, the side curtain airbag would be told to stand down in a crash. Collision-mitigation and cruise-control systems benefit from forward scanning radar. Should a threat or insufficient vehicle spacing become imminent, vehicle power reduction and braking may be automatically called to action. Lane-departure systems may use video, laser and infrared sensors, as well as cameras, as inputs to pattern and object-recognition processors to determine if a driver error is occurring. A stern warning, such as a tone, steering-wheel vibration or gentle steering correction will get the driver's attention and hopefully set things straight. Blind spot monitoring may also use radar and cameras to keep you informed of trouble outside of your mirror's viewing area.

Probably the smartest feature I've seen is self-parking. I got a chance to play with a Lexus LS460 sedan about six years back at a Toyota technology presentation. After picking some really cramped and less-than-ideal parking spots—I wouldn't have tried them manually even in a smaller car—the system would either steer the car brilliantly into them, or politely refuse. Perhaps a silly and expensive feature, but you have to marvel at the smarts!

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Vets preserve memories of war with their own art

By SHARON COHEN
AP NATIONAL WRITER

This undated photo provided by artist Marcus Eriksen shows his "My Angel in the Desert" sculpture. Eriksen was a young Marine sergeant during the Gulf War, riding with a convoy to Kuwait City, when he encountered the Iraqi soldier. It was the first dead body he'd seen. AP

CHICAGO (AP)—The fallen Iraqi soldier's face is frozen in agony, his eyes and mouth wide open, his arms spread in surrender, his death in the Kuwaiti desert captured for posterity.

The sculpture's title: "Angel in the Desert."

Marcus Eriksen was a young Marine sergeant during the Gulf War, riding with a convoy to Kuwait City, when he encountered the Iraqi soldier. It was the first dead body he'd seen. The image was haunting, the experience unforgettable. But it took more than a decade before he started welding the memory into art.

Using a mannequin, an old uniform and plaster cast of his face and hands, Eriksen produced a mold and lined it with 70,000 steel ball bearings. He meticulously recreated the scene: the soldier on his back, knees bent. His insides exposed beneath his shirt. And swooping curves in the sand that suggested he'd moved his arms like a kid making snow angels.

This, says Eriksen, is not "an anti-war message. It's a reality of war message."

Every November, America honors its veterans with grand parades, speeches and tributes. But more than 350 veterans of Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan have turned to art to preserve more intimate and enduring memories of war, and more than 2,500 of their works have found a home at Chicago's National Veterans Art Museum.

The modest museum, which focused at first on Vietnam vets but has since expanded, includes paintings, prints, drawings, poetry, photos, sculpture, collages and video. Most of the vets are trained artists who've used their skills to illustrate harrowing life-and-death experiences, explore personal demons and celebrate fallen comrades. This is art that dredges up nightmares for some, and healing for others—Eriksen, among them.

Now 45, he vividly remembers Feb. 24, 1991, when he and about a dozen other Marines stood around staring silently at the dead soldier sprawled 30 feet from his incinerated truck. "No one would cry," he says. "As a Marine, you just suck it up."

"Seeing him put a face on the suffering," Eriksen recalls. "I knew he was dead but his family didn't. ... All that death and destruction—was it worth it? If you're going to commit young people to kill and be killed, you have to have a solid reason for it. And I don't think we had that."

Eriksen, now an environmental activist in California, began creating his sculpture shortly after the first bodies of U.S. troops started coming home from Iraq in 2003. It stirred up emotions of his days in uniform.

"It allowed me to remove the burden of my memories of Kuwait, of all the bodies, of the stench. ... Just making the sculpture ... would bring tons of sadness," Eriksen says. "I would think about that person and what happened every day. At some point, I thought, `Do I want to feel that way the rest of the day?' Eventually you tell yourself, as I did, no, I'm not going to beat myself up a millionth time. I'm done with that."

■ ■ ■ ■

A man with a mustache, a fringe of brown hair and almost cartoon-like huge brown eyes looks out from the canvas. His lips are a barely defined pink oval. His expression is blank.

Title: Thousand Mile Stare.

More than 30 years passed before Helen White painted the picture of the officer she saw at the 67th Evacuation Hospital in Qui Nhon, where she served as an orthopedic nurse. She doesn't remember his name, his face or much else beyond the fact that he'd arrived there after surviving a firefight that had killed almost everyone else. His eyes telegraphed his trauma.

"They were wide open, they were scanning, looking for safety and looking for danger," White says. "If you see the stare, it's not something you forget. ... The memories stay in my mind, even if I don't focus on them. And, of course, there's the mystery—what happened, how did he recover, what impact did it have on his life."

Some people, she says, are disturbed by her painting; others think the raw image isn't even art.

White, who turns 65 on Tuesday, is retired from nursing and grappling with service-related PTSD, which she says has grown so intense that she has become agoraphobic. "Just going to the grocery store is a challenge," she says. "Sometimes I just stay in my house."

Painting has brought some solace, and also puts her in contact with a world beyond her Missouri home; she follows the works of artists who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and sees a commonality in their creations. "It gets back to the same song, just another verse," she says. "War is war."

"I don't regret being there," White says of Vietnam. "There's a lot I wish I could have done. I got off the plane, did what I could. I got back on the plane and came home. Some people didn't. So this artwork is like leaving a sign behind that I was here. It's like a cave painting. I never intended it to be that, but in a way it's a legacy."

■ ■ ■ ■

A toy soldier is trapped in an orange pill bottle, the lid screwed on top. His arms are raised over his head, his rifle is held high in one hand, his right knee is bent as if he's trying to climb out.

Title: Trapped.

This print—created on paper made from an old Army uniform—hints of Malachi Muncy's two life-changing tours with the Texas National Guard in Iraq.

He was just 18 when he first deployed, and once in the combat zone, Muncy says he began taking sleeping pills to shut out the world. The constant dangers he faced on truck-driving convoys were overwhelming.

"So much bad stuff happened," he recalls. "Watching IEDs explode, and mortars hit. Being pinned down on bridges, you wonder where the fire is coming from. You just sit and wait to get shot at and you have no control over whether you're going to live or die ... I was having nightmares. I really felt I was going to do stupid things and hurt the wrong people. I was having thoughts I couldn't expel."

Muncy got into trouble, he says, pointing a weapon at a superior after a mission in which he went 36 hours without sleep.

When he returned home, life unraveled. He slept all day, he says, started hanging around with the wrong crowd, got hooked on methamphetamines, amassed a pile of speeding tickets and was arrested for shoplifting. He took an overdose of pills—he's not sure if it was a suicide attempt.

And yet, almost inexplicably, he returned for a second tour in 2006. Muncy, who later was diagnosed with PTSD, says he wanted to get away from "the mess" and all the pills.

That second stint went far more smoothly and Muncy, now 27, began keeping a journal. When he returned to Texas—he works at a coffee house in Killeen, outside Fort Hood—he attended college and became interested in poetry, photography and other arts.

"It's about sharing the experience," he says. "It's not just something that haunts you."

Using a toy soldier and a pill bottle he'd kept on his key chain, Muncy produced one print showing the trapped soldier. A second one shows the bottle tipped over, the soldier crawling out on his belly. That one is appropriately called Escape.

"They're both me," Muncy says. "It's not then and now. It's a back and forth. Sometimes I still feel like the guy trapped in the bottle."

■ ■ ■ ■

A desperate Vietnamese mother clutches her starving baby on her chest as she flees her village. Looking back, she sees the chaos of her hamlet under attack. A Viet Cong soldier has his rifle pointed at the head of a villager on his knees, praying before he's executed.

Title: The Refugee.

Richard Olsen created the yellow-and-black linocut after returning home following a year's tour as an Army helicopter pilot with the 33rd Transportation Company in Vietnam. He came back in 1963, and the war in faraway Southeast Asia was not yet fully on America's radar, so producing these images was his way of sounding an alarm.

"It was like, `Hey, you guys, there's a war going on,'" Olsen says. "Why make pictures of flowers? Why not make pictures of war?"

Olsen had always wanted to be an artist growing up in Wisconsin—he earned a master of fine arts degree—and Vietnam allowed him to create works that he says reveal a "little man swept into a world beyond his control."

"I had to tell the story ... the valiance, the heroism, the sacrifices, the personal giving for causes bigger than yourself," says Olsen, now a 76-year-old professional artist living in Georgia. "It occurs on both sides."

Olsen's work—paintings, drawing and prints—is ripe with pain, sacrifice and patriotism.

There's a POW, viewed from behind, on his knees, his hands bound behind his back with his shoe laces, waiting to be killed; an eerie bluish outpost at 4 a.m., illuminated by a searchlight; a tender portrait of his bunk mate, a lieutenant who didn't make it home. And then there's Hill 881, site of one of the bloodiest Marine battles in Vietnam.

The hill painting was created by copying stencil shapes onto a canvas. It repeats the same scene of three soldiers: one climbing a hill, one higher up, tumbling down after being hit, and the third at the top falling backward as he's shot. That final image was inspired by the famous Robert Capa photo of the fallen soldier in the Spanish Civil War.

"I wanted to make it an endless plight ... of the Marines trying to take the hill over and over and over," Olsen says. "There's just an absurd twist to it."

Olsen moved beyond Vietnam to an artistic career that has spanned more than 50 years; he's produced more than 1,000 paintings, many of them abstract. His work has been shown in galleries around the country.

Yet those days when he flew his chopper over the dense thicket of jungle maintain a deep hold on him.

"War is the depth of the human experience," he says. "It's the most meaningful part of anyone's life."

■ ■ ■ ■

A stately building in Kabul is consumed by a bomb. Gray clouds of smoke and red bursts of fire billow from the windows. Splashes of red, blue and yellow tents on clotheslines frame the bottom of a degraded print.

Title: Transfer's of War (triptych 1, part 2).

Ash Kyrie wasn't an artist before he went to Iraq with the Wisconsin Army National Guard. But after his return in 2004, the former debate champ no longer wanted to follow family tradition and become a lawyer. "I was a different person," he says. "I wasn't interested in the same things. I threw away my TV. I wanted to express feelings and emotions."

He enrolled in art classes at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, read the newspapers religiously and became mesmerized by photos of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. They seemed remote from his experiences, not reflecting the brutality he'd seen.

Over two years, Kyrie, now 31, collected about 1,500 photos from major newspapers and categorized them in three groups: benign intervention, showing U.S., troops following local customs or mingling with villagers; abstract explosions, images that are too far away to show the grisly consequences; and something he called sacrifice—Iraqis and Afghans, killed by each other, not coalition forces.

Kyrie took some of the photos, blew them up into enormous prints and, using a transfer process, altered the images. From a distance, the harsh scene scenes are recognizable, but up close they look like a collection of beautiful crystals.

There is no political message here, Kyrie says, just a way of illustrating the gap between war as it is and the way it is portrayed in the media.

Art, says Kyrie, has helped him come closer to understanding his tour in Iraq.

"I think about the war every day," he says. "I think about my experience. Every soldier tries to quantify or organize it in some way. I got back in 2004 and I still haven't come to a conclusion. I don't know if I ever will. Every emotion you went through goes through your head. You relive it. You remember it. It's a very intense time being at war. Every moment is memorable."

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Skyfall

Friday		4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	10:00
Monday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Cast: Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Javier Bardem
Genre: Spy film, Action • Rated PG13

Synopsis

James Bond returns for another entry in the secret-agent franchise with Sam Mendes at the helm and Daniel Craig back for the twenty-third official Bond film. Neal Purvis, Robert Wade and John Logan provide the script.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Wreck-It Ralph 3D

Friday			7:05	9:35
Saturday & Sunday	1:05		7:05	9:35
Monday	1:05		7:05	
Tuesday thru Thursday			7:05	

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

An 8-bit video-game character attempts to shed his bad-guy image by escaping into a popular first-person shooter, but inadvertently wreaks havoc in the video-game universe by freeing a digital villain who can only be contained with the help of a most unlikely ally in this colorful animated adventure. Wreck-It Ralph (voice of John C. Reilly) is the arch nemesis of Fix-It Felix (voice of Jack McBrayer), one of the most beloved video-game icons of all time. In a noble bid to prove he is more than the sum of his programming, Ralph sneaks from his cozy retro home into a highly advanced combat game featuring battle-hardened soldier Sergeant Calhoun (voice of Jane Lynch), and strives to prove his bravery by winning a medal. In the process, however, Ralph accidentally frees the greatest threat the video-game world has ever seen.

Wreck-It Ralph 2D

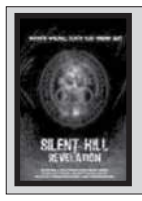
Friday		4:05
Saturday & Sunday		4:05
Monday		4:05
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:05

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Here Comes The Boom

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday & Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Monday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Cast: Kevin James, Henry Winkler, Salma Hayek
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG



Silent Hill: Revelation 3D

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Monday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Cast: Adelaide Clemens, Carrie-Anne Moss
Genre: Horror • Rated R

A Secret Affair

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:40
Saturday & Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:40
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Anne Curtis, Derek Ramsay, Andi Eigenmann
Genre: Romance, Drama • Rated PG 13

Pitch Perfect

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:55
Saturday & Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:55
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Sunday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Cast: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Ben Platt
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG13

Hotel Transylvania 3D

Friday			7:25	9:50
Saturday & Sunday	1:25		7:25	9:50
Monday	1:25		7:25	
Tuesday thru Thursday			7:25	

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Hotel Transylvania 2D

Friday	4:25
Saturday & Sunday	4:25
Monday	4:25
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:25

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

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Bond soars with record $87.8M 'Skyfall' debut

AP

British actor Daniel Craig, French actress Berenice Marlohe and Spanish actor Javier Bardem pose for photographers during a photo call session for the presentation of the new James Bond movie Skyfall in Paris, Thursday Oct. 25, 2012.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Bond's "Skyfall" has extended its worldwide box-office rule to North America, hauling in a franchise-record $87.8 million in its first weekend at U.S. theaters.

Adding in $2.2 million from Thursday night previews at IMAX and other large-format theaters, "Skyfall" has taken in $90 million domestically, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That lifts the worldwide total for "Skyfall" to $518.6 million since it began rolling out overseas in late October. Internationally, the 23rd Bond flick added $89 million this weekend to raise its overseas revenue to $428.6 million.

The third installment starring Daniel Craig as British superspy Bond, "Skyfall" outdid the $67.5 million U.S. debut of 2008's "Quantum of Solace," the franchise's previous best opening. "Skyfall" more than doubled the $40.8 million debut of Craig's first Bond film, 2006's "Casino Royale."

"Skyfall" already has passed the $407.7 million overseas total for "Quantum of Solace" and by Monday, it will top the $432.2 million international haul for "Casino Royale."

The Craig era has reinvigorated one of Hollywood's most-enduring franchises, whose first big-screen Bond adventure, "Dr. No," debuted 50 years ago.

"It's quite a testament to Bond, considering it's the 50th anniversary. What a great anniversary present," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution at Sony, which produces the Bond films along with MGM.

"Skyfall" was the weekend's only new wide release, but Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" had a huge start in a handful of theaters. Starring Daniel Day-Lewis as the 16th president, "Lincoln" took in $900,000 in 11 theaters for a whopping average of $81,818 a cinema. By comparison, "Skyfall" averaged $25,050 a cinema in 3,505 theaters.

"Lincoln" centers on the months leading up to the president's assassination in April 1865, as he maneuvers to pass the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolishing slavery and end the Civil War. Distributor Disney will expand "Lincoln" into nationwide release of about 1,600 theaters Friday and may widen the film further over the Thanksgiving holiday week later this month.

The film has strong Academy Awards prospects for two-time directing winner Spielberg, two-time acting recipient Day-Lewis and the rest of the cast, which includes Oscar winners Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones.

"The performances are some of the greatest of recent time," said Dave Hollis, head of distribution for Disney. "I don't know if you're ever going to think about it again without seeing our actor as Lincoln. Daniel is extraordinary in the role."

"Skyfall" took over the top spot at the weekend box office from Disney's animated comedy "Wreck-It Ralph," which fell to No. 2 with $33.1 million, raising its domestic total to $93.7 million.

While "Skyfall" marked a new high for Bond's opening-weekend revenue, the film has a long way to go to match the biggest audiences 007 has ever drawn. Adjusted for inflation, Sean Connery's 1965 Bond adventure "Thunderball" would have taken in an estimated $508 million domestically in today's dollars, with its 1964 predecessor "Goldfinger" not far behind at $444 million, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com.

The Bond films over the last two decades have come in around the $200 million range domestically in inflation-adjusted dollars.

Still, Craig's Bond is setting a new critical standard for the franchise. While "Quantum of Solace" had a so-so critical reception, "Skyfall" and "Casino Royale" are among the best-reviewed Bond films, with critics and fans enjoying the darker edge Craig has imprinted on 007.

1. **"Skyfall,"** $87.8 million ($89 million, international).
2. **"Wreck-It Ralph,"** $33.1 million ($11.2 million, international).
3. **"Flight,"** $15.1 million.
4. **"Argo,"** $6.7 million ($12 million, international).
5. **"Taken 2,"** $4 million.
6. **"Here Comes the Boom,"** $2.6 million.
7. **"Cloud Atlas,"** $2.53 million ($8.7 million, international).
8. **"Pitch Perfect,"** $2.5 million.
9. **"The Man with the Iron Fists,"** $2.49 million.
10. **"Hotel Transylvania,"** $2.4 million ($11.1 million, international).

Philip Roth says he's done with fiction

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Exit, Philip Roth? Having conceived everything from turning into a breast to a polio epidemic in his native New Jersey, Roth has apparently given his imagination a rest.

The 79-year-old novelist recently told a French publication, Les inRocks, that his 2010 release "Nemesis" would be his last. Spokeswoman Lori Glazer of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt said Friday that she had spoken with Roth and that he confirmed his remarks. Roth's literary agent, Andrew Wylie, declined comment.

Roth certainly produced, completing more than 20 novels over half a century and often turning out one a year. He won virtually every prize short of the Nobel and wrote such classics as "American Pastoral" and "Portnoy's Complaint."

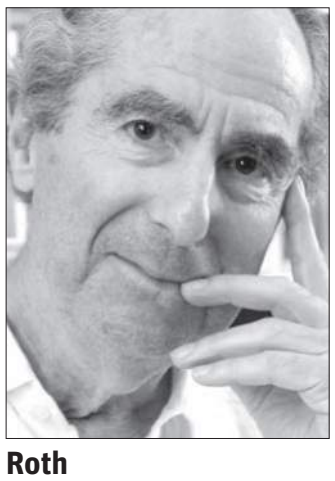
His name will remain on new releases, if only because the Library of America has been issuing hardcover volumes of his work. Roth also is cooperating with award-winning biographer Blake Bailey on a book about his life.

The author chose an unexpected forum to break the news, but he has been hinting at his departure for years. He has said that he no longer reads fiction and seemed to say goodbye to his fictional alter ego, Nathan Zuckerman, in the 2007 novel "Exit Ghost."

Retirement is rarely the preferred option for writers, for whom the ability to tell stories or at least set down words is often synonymous with life itself. Poor health, discouragement and even madness are the more likely ways literary careers end. Roth apparently is fit and his recent novels had been received respectfully, if not with the awe of his most celebrated work.

His parting words from "Nemesis": "He seemed to us invincible."

Roth's interview appeared in French and has been translated, roughly, by The Associated Press. He tells Les inRocks that "Nemesis" was "mon dernier livre" ("My last book") and refers to "Howard's End" author E.M. Forster, and how he quit fiction in his 40s. Roth said he doesn't plan to write a memoir, but will instead go through his archives and help ensure that Bailey's biography comes out in his lifetime.



Roth

Explaining why he stopped, Roth said that at age 74 he became aware his time was limited and that he started re-reading his books of the past 20-30 years, in reverse order. He decided that he agreed with what the boxer Joe Louis had said late in life, that he had done the best he could with what he had.

Swift, Bieber prevail at '12 MTV EMA

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Taylor Swift beat Rihanna in the battle of the women at the 2012 MTV EMA, taking three out of a possible five awards.

Rihanna and Swift topped the nominations with six and five nods respectively, but 22-year-old American singer-songwriter Swift walked away with Best Female, Best Live and Best Look.

Barbados-born R&B singer Rihanna went empty handed, while Canadian pop star Justin Bieber matched Swift for the boys and earned Best World Stage, along with repeat wins for Best Pop and Best Male.

South Korean pop sensation Psy's "Gangnam Style" won the award for Best Video and the late Whitney Houston was named Global Icon for her impact on pop music.

The 19th-annual MTV EMA was broadcast live from Frankfurt's historic Festhalle Sunday.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Headstone placed on grave of 'Little Rascals' star

BALTIMORE (AP)—Fans of the "Little Rascals" film series were in Baltimore this weekend to place a headstone at the grave of child actor Norman "Chubby" Chaney. Chaney's grave had been unmarked for 76 years since he died at age 21. Chaney was paid a weekly salary when he appeared in the films between 1929 and 1931. But he didn't receive any royalties or residual payments and returned to Baltimore when he grew out of the role. The Baltimore Sun reported Sunday that he struggled with his weight as a teenager. When he died, his mother couldn't afford a headstone for his grave. The series was known as "Our Gang" when it was shown in theaters and later as the "Little Rascals" on television.

'Love Boat' producer Colman dies at 89

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Television producer and executive Henry Colman—whose credits include "The Love Boat," ''Hawaii Five-O" and "Green Acres"—has died at age 89. An announcement Sunday by the Archive of American Television says Colman died Wednesday. Colman's career dates to early commercial television, where he started as production coordinator on the musical show "Easy Does It." In 1951, Colman became assistant to the director for "Kraft Television Theatre" and later worked on such series as "Robert Montgomery Presents" and "Colgate Comedy Hour." As a TV executive, Colman oversaw the pilot of "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis" and worked on "Green Acres" and "Hawaii Five-O." In the 1970s, he helped develop "The Love Boat," where he worked as line producer. Colman also produced the 1980s series "Hotel."

This cover image provided by Vogue shows actress Anne Hathaway on the cover of the December issue of "Vogue." AP

Hathaway says 'Les Mis' made her feel deprived

NEW YORK (AP)—Anne Hathaway credits her new husband Adam Schulman for helping her get through the grueling filming of the screen adaptation of "Les Miserables."

In "Les Mis," the 30-year-old actress plays Fantine, a struggling, sickly mother forced into prostitution in 1800s Paris.

Hathaway lost 25 pounds (11 kilograms) and cut her hair for the role. She tells the December issue of Vogue that the part left her in a "state of deprivation, physical and emotional." She felt easily overwhelmed and says Shulman was understanding and supportive.

The couple wed in September in Big Sur, California. Hathaway wore a custom gown by Valentino whom she collaborated with on the design. Working with the designer is a memory she says she will "treasure forever."

Judy's Garland's Oz dress fetches $480K in auction

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—The now-faded blue gingham dress that Judy Garland wore in "The Wizard of Oz" has sold for $480,000.

Auction house Julien's Auctions says the pinafore fetched the highest price of any item during a two-day auction of Hollywood memorabilia that drew bids from around the world. The auction ended Saturday in Beverly Hills, California.

Steve McQueen's racing jacket sold for $50,000, as did a purple skirt worn by Marilyn Monroe while filming "River of No Return" in Canada. Julie Andrews' "Sound of Music" dress brought $38,400. Sunglasses worn by Jean Reno in "Leon" went for $8,320, while Johnny Depp's shades fetched $3,250.

Bidders also snapped up pieces of royal wedding cakes. Prince William and Kate Middleton's cake sold for $7,500 while Prince Charles and Princess Diana's cake sold for $1,375.

AP

This photo combo shows, at left, actress Judy Garland as Dorothy in a scene from "The Wizard of Oz," and at right, is an Oct. 16, 2012 file photo showing the dress Garland wore in the movie, on display in London.

Holly Hunter to star in an off-Broadway play

Hunter

NEW YORK (AP)—Academy Award-winner Holly Hunter is hoping to rip up the stage when she stars off-Broadway in a new play by Hamish Linklater.

The Flea Theatre said Friday the actress from such films as "Broadcast News" and "Raising Arizona" will be in "The Vandal" from Jan. 18-Feb. 17. The play will also star Zach Grenier and Noah Robbins. Jim Simpson will direct. The Flea says the new work is a play "about death and vandalism in Kingston, N.Y."

Hunter, who also starred in the TV series "Saving Grace," was last off-Broadway in "Impossible Marriage" in 1998 and played the "Mystery Guest Star" in "The Play What I Wrote" on Broadway in 2003.

Dear Abby

Dog pays the price for owner's inattention behind the wheel

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I want to share my experience with being a distracted driver. One gorgeous, sunny day a few months ago, I happened to glance down at my iPad and the next thing I knew, I had hit the car in front of me. The airbags engaged and hit me and my golden retriever, who was in the front seat with me. He was so freaked out he jumped out the window into oncoming traffic. I chased him, but lost him as he darted through traffic on the busy streets.

Fortunately, a couple found him and brought him to a vet who scanned his chip. I got him back, and it is a gift from heaven—but he was severely injured. With time, he will make a full recovery, but my stupid mistake hurt my most cherished companion. I can't forgive myself. From now on, those devices go in the trunk.

REFORMED DISTRACTED DRIVER

DEAR REFORMED: That's a start. And in the future, your cherished companion should ride in the BACK seat—with the windows closed and wearing a restraint so that in the event of another traffic problem he won't be reinjured. Because you are in communication with your veterinarian, ask him or her what type is recommended.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a mature, adult woman in my 40s who has never had a good relationship with my mother. Candidly, she is a mean person who has left a lot of hurt feelings in her wake. It makes being close to her impossible. Our entire family feels the way I do about her, including her only surviving sister.

I will be remarrying soon. Although I feel that inviting my mother to my wedding is the right thing to do, it could mean potentially inviting disaster—literally. I'm having trouble coming to terms with this decision and would love your input.

NEEDS GUIDANCE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NEEDS GUIDANCE: Your mother appears to be a bitter, possibly disturbed woman. If she isn't invited, the hurt and angry feelings could reverberate for years. Because the rest of your family knows the way she is, consider inviting her on the condition that she will be on her best behavior—AND with the understanding that if she "lapses," some family members will escort her out.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband has met my co-workers and their spouses at various company-related events. He recently mentioned that he has seen "Wally," who is married to one of my co-workers, "Anna," with another woman on more than one occasion. Apparently, Wally didn't recognize my husband.

Should I "casually" mention to Anna that my husband saw her husband and where, and let her figure it out for herself? My husband said it's up to me to decide whether to tell her or not. If it were me, I'd want to know.

OLDER BUT NOT WISER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR O.B.N.W.: I suppose you could casually mention it to Anna, but don't be surprised if she casually responds that the woman is his sister, his cousin or a daughter by a former marriage. It may be perfectly innocent.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My friend left a plant for me to take care of while she was out of town. The plant died. Do I replace the plant?

NO GREEN THUMB IN LUBBOCK, TEXAS

DEAR NO GREEN THUMB: If the plant was thriving when your friend asked you to care for it, and it died because of lack of sun or water while in your care, then the answer is yes—you should at least offer to replace it. For your sake, I hope it wasn't a rare orchid.

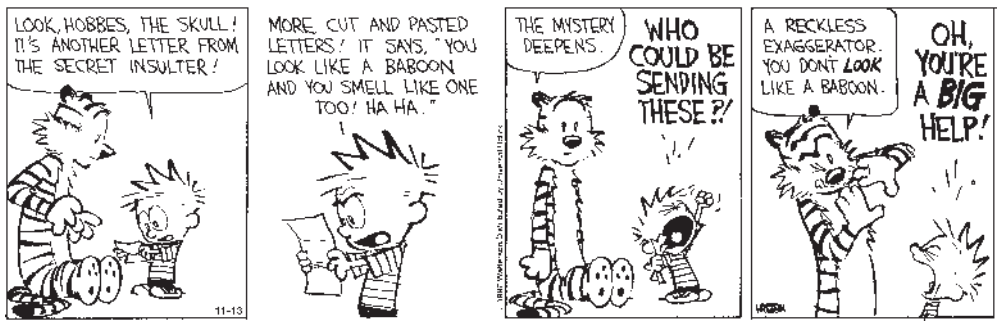
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

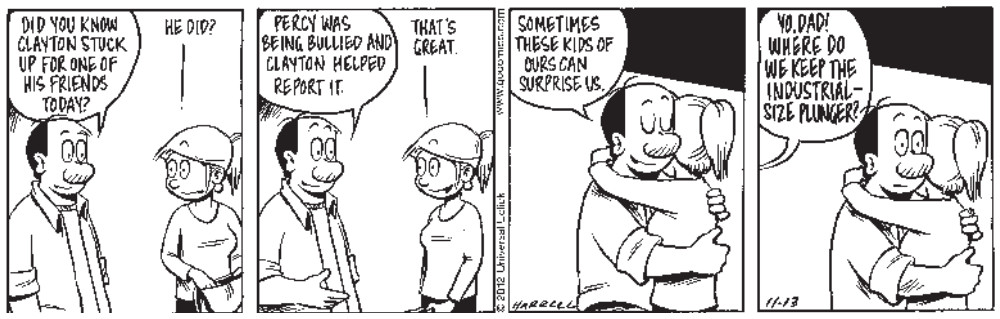


Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Nuclear energy source
5 Pigpen
8 Hairdresser's item
12 Pop
13 Raw mineral
14 Hawaiian feast
15 Desertlike
16 Painting, sculpture, et al.
18 Conifer exudation
20 Lascivious
21 Two, in Tijuana
22 Owns
23 Hodgepodges
26 Reception amenity
30 Coop dweller
31 Ewe's mate
32 Altar affirmative
33 Tram, usually
36 Otherwise
38 Grecian vessel
39 Supporting
40 Pedro's pal
43 TV schedules
47 Oscillation rendering
49 Locate
50 Picture on a PC
51 Zero
52 Rabbit
53 Logical
54 Accomplished
55 Deep black gem

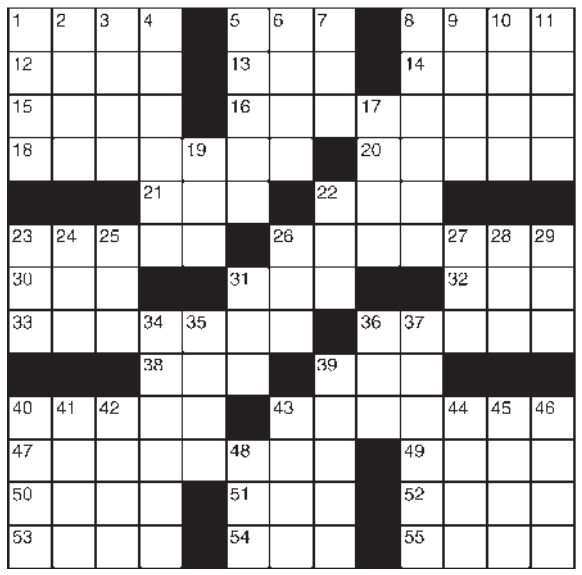
DOWN

1 Pronto, on a memo
2 Spelling of TV
3 Valhalla VIP
4 Got by somehow
5 Couches
6 Stumble
7 Longing
8 Contract section
9 What we share
10 Dillon or Damon
11 Not idle
17 Verve
19 "Help!"
22 That guy
23 Resistance measure
24 Garland for 14-Across
25 Hostel
26 Series of battles
27 Crib
28 Big bother
29 Deteriorate
31 Scooted
34 Oregon city
35 Singer Sheryl
36 Charged bit
37 Painting on plaster
39 Profession
40 Unrepaired
41 Isinglass
42 Privy to
43 Roman 57
44 "Once — a time ..."
45 Shetland, for one
46 Underworld river
48 Moreover

Solution time: 21 mins.

H	E	A	R	■	R	A	M	■	F	I	S	T
A	R	C	H	■	E	P	A	■	I	N	T	O
L	I	E	U	■	S	T	R	U	T	T	E	R
C	E	R	A	M	A	T	■	C	E	C	T	C
■	■	■	B	R	A	T	■	O	U	R	■	■
S	Q	U	A	T	T	E	R	■	L	E	A	P
S	U	N	■	Y	E	M	E	N	■	S	P	A
W	I	C	K	■	S	P	L	A	T	T	E	R
■	■	L	I	P	■	I	E	A	R	■	■	■
A	D	O	B	E	S	■	A	N	I	M	A	L
S	F	A	O	T	T	F	R	■	B	O	D	Y
I	L	K	S	■	E	E	N	■	A	L	O	E
F	I	S	H	■	M	R	S	■	L	E	S	S

Yesterday's answer 11-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gerard Butler, 43; Whoopi Goldberg, 57; Chris Noth, 58; Joe Mantegna, 65.

Happy Birthday: Consider what you want to share with others. Being secretive will add to your appeal. Explore exotic destinations, unusual pastimes or people that interest you. What you learn now will help you build a better future. Adaptability will be your ticket to freedom. Don't limit what you can accomplish. Your numbers are 3, 15, 21, 26, 33, 45, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Instigate what you want to see happen. Waiting for help is a waste of time. A moneymaking opportunity is apparent if you partner with an old friend or associate. Traveling to conduct a face-to-face meeting will broaden your chance for success. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Check out foreign markets and educational or job opportunities. Take a serious look at your current status and the people influencing your life. Speak up, show determination and prepare to put your plans into motion. Use your imagination. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll have good ideas and solutions that will put you in the spotlight. Greater professional opportunities are apparent if you share your interest in reform and getting more for less. Someone from your past will play a role in a decision you make. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't let change cloud your vision. Do your best to be creative and social with people who come from different backgrounds. You will learn a lot if you are receptive to new concepts. A creative venture will enhance your life. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't shirk your responsibilities, or you will face criticism. Once you have your chores out of the way, you will be able to experience interesting encounters with people who can make you more aware of the possibilities that exist. Engage in the action. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Getting out with friends or attending a community event will lead to greater knowledge and insight into future trends. Don't let the people you live with or are close to interrupt your plans. Arguments will not lead to solutions. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You may be confused with regard to how you earn a living. Get back to basics, and consider new ways to implement old skills. Don't be shy—share your thoughts and you will get interesting and helpful feedback. Opportunity knocks. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Openness will be the ticket to making the best decision. The information you receive will allow you to see where others stand. Gravitate toward those offering dedication, courage and loyalty. Strive for perfection. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You may feel like chatting and sharing your ideas, but don't be too quick. Someone is likely to lead you astray or take advantage of your openness. Keep what you are doing a secret until you are well on your way to completion. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Follow your instincts. Focus on your goals. Preparation and observation will lead to victory. Don't let someone else's change of plans slow you down or disrupt your day. Stick to the truth and don't hesitate to dismantle the competition's plan. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Avoid people who tend to upset you. You have more options than you realize. Concentrate on your finances, important paperwork and getting your life in order. Greater opportunities will develop once you achieve greater stability. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Tie up loose ends. Take care of financial, medical and legal matters that might stand in your way if left unattended. Dealing with institutions, government agencies or hospitals will lead to unusual but favorable solutions to any problem you face. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable and persistent. You take action and stand by your word.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3					2	
			4	1	6			5
6		8						
	2		9		4		6	
	6			8			7	
	3		2		7		9	
						6		4
2			8	4	1			
	5					9		

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	6	1	9	7	4	5	2	8
9	5	7	6	8	2	3	4	1
2	4	8	5	1	3	6	9	7
4	8	3	1	2	5	7	6	9
7	1	6	3	4	9	2	8	5
5	2	9	7	6	8	4	1	3
6	9	2	8	5	7	1	3	4
1	3	5	4	9	6	8	7	2
8	7	4	2	3	1	9	5	6

Difficulty Level ★ 11/12

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HAMBURGERS Solution: 8 letters

H	B	T	B	G	R	O	U	N	D	E	C	N	I	M
O	A	O	O	A	S	I	D	E	S	L	I	D	E	R
M	R	M	N	P	C	L	K	E	T	C	H	U	P	E
E	B	A	B	I	P	O	O	M	U	S	T	A	R	D
M	E	T	A	U	O	I	N	P	I	S	U	G	N	A
A	C	O	C	C	R	N	N	L	P	Ⓝ	Ⓐ	Ⓔ	Ⓛ	R
D	U	D	K	H	E	G	E	G	S	E	L	S	B	G
E	E	A	Y	E	C	R	E	J	S	K	R	O	R	R
L	M	C	A	D	I	O	T	R	C	A	C	N	O	I
B	A	O	R	D	P	A	A	I	S	H	P	I	I	L
U	L	V	D	A	E	S	P	L	F	O	E	C	L	L
O	F	A	A	R	L	T	B	R	A	I	S	E	P	E
D	Y	T	T	A	P	U	E	C	K	A	E	T	S	D
S	W	I	S	S	N	T	H	I	C	K	N	D	O	E
E	C	U	A	S	A	U	T	E	E	L	P	I	R	T

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Angus, Avocado, Backyard, Bacon, Barbecue, Braise, Broil, Buns, Certified, Cheddar, Cheese, Double, Flame, Grade, Grilled, Ground, Hamburgers, Homemade, Ketchup, Lean, Licks, Minced, Mustard, Onion, Patty, Pickle, Poach, Recipe, Relish, Roast, Salsa, Sauce, Saute, Sides, Slider, Slopper, Sonic, Steak, Swiss, Thick, Tomato, Toppings, Triple

Yesterday's Answer: Majority

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WHATZIT Solution: Knock on wood

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(4) Sales Representative
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Email tomastchong@gmail.com
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Salary $10.00 p/h. Knowledge in Japanese & Chinese language a plus. Minimum of 2 years experience.

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Interested applicants please bring resume & police clearance to Innovation Inc., San Antonio, P.O.Box 504206, or call 235-5547.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-036
Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2012

SENIOR ENGINEER

Duties: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Electric Power Systems, or his/her designee - namely the Power Manager (Transmission and Distribution). Performs project management activities to include: preparing reports, memorandums and recommendations; developing scope of work; providing technical reviews; surveying for projects; developing procurement and bid documents, evaluating proposals; monitoring project process; approving payment; and, recommending award of projects. Prepares engineering designs, plans, data collection and specifications. Performs load flow and protection studies and analysis. Troubleshoot and analyze system and equipment faults and determine root causes. Carry out planning, design, construction ,management, operation and maintenance of transmission and distribution system in a saline environment. Research, write, and manage the conditions and requirements for renewable energy PPAs and Interconnection Agreements . Reviews work performed by engineering technicians and engineers. Coordinates and meets with other divisions to coordinate activities and projects. Supervises engineering support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Power Division (Transmission and Distribution) , SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $60,000.00 to $73,195.00 per year; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITION: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not contracted.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and four years of directly related experience in an electrical utility. A Master's Degree in Engineering is preferred. Must be a licensed professional engineer from a U.S. state or territory. An engineer with an active NCEES Record is preferred. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Managing multiple projects; Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Interpreting drawings; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using load flow and related software applications; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a U.S. driver's license.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-035
Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Monday, November 19, 2012

Senior Engineering Technician

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Power Division (Transmission and Distribution) Manager or his/her designee. Uses advanced technical computer applications to support engineering functions of the Division. Compiles As-Built drawings and expertly incorporates the data into existing composite system drawings. Performs field duties to include: collecting and gathering data; determining assembly requirements; preparing data for drawings; clearing underground facilities; providing storm damage assessments; conducting field inventories; conducting testing; conducting severance verifications by locating and verifying boundaries; conducting verifications on materials; and, conducting land title research. Prepares drawings, plans, as-builts and land acquisition documents; performs engineering calculations. Receives requests for drawings and independently creates needed drawings and renderings required by engineers for design and construction contracts. Prepares daily assignments to meet schedules and requests. Prepares and submits a variety of reports and documents to include securing permits. Prepares staking sheets to determine the cost of the required work as stated in the application. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Division (T&D); SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $17,800.46 to $28,191.50 per annum; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Not contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Associate Degree in Construction Management or Engineering Technology, or a related field, and two years of senior engineering technician experience. Knowledge of: Public rights of way; CADD programs; Global Positioning Systems; National Electric Code; Mathematics; Basic engineering concepts. Skill in: Drafting; Preparing engineering drawings using CADD; Using GIS; Preparing charts and graphs; Performing mathematical calculations; Performing basic engineering calculations; Solving problems; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must already have a U.S. or CNMI driver's license. Pre-employment drug testing required.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-034
Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Monday, November 19, 2012

ENGINEER

Duties: Under the overall supervision of the Deputy Director for Electric Power Systems or his/her designee, namely the Power Manager (Transmission and Distribution). Designs, executes, coordinates, and oversees assigned pieces of projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepares design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketches. Drafts a variety of engineering reports and correspondence. Assists with data collection, troubleshooting of power distribution and substation equipment faults and determining their root causes. Must be able to work with power distribution staff in the maintenance and operation of the power distribution and substation and electrical equipment. Carry out load flow and protection studies. Lead a group of technicians in the installation, operation and maintenance of power distribution and substation . Provide guidance to plant operations staff involved in the operation and maintenance of power distribution and substation equipment. Performs research for the Power Division (Transmission and Distribution). May perform engineer duties for other divisions of CUC. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

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SALARY: $37,344.71 to $55,315.50 .00 per year; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering AND at least four years of experience in a power utility (power generation and/or transmission and distribution). Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Grizzlies beat Heat 104-86 for 5th straight win

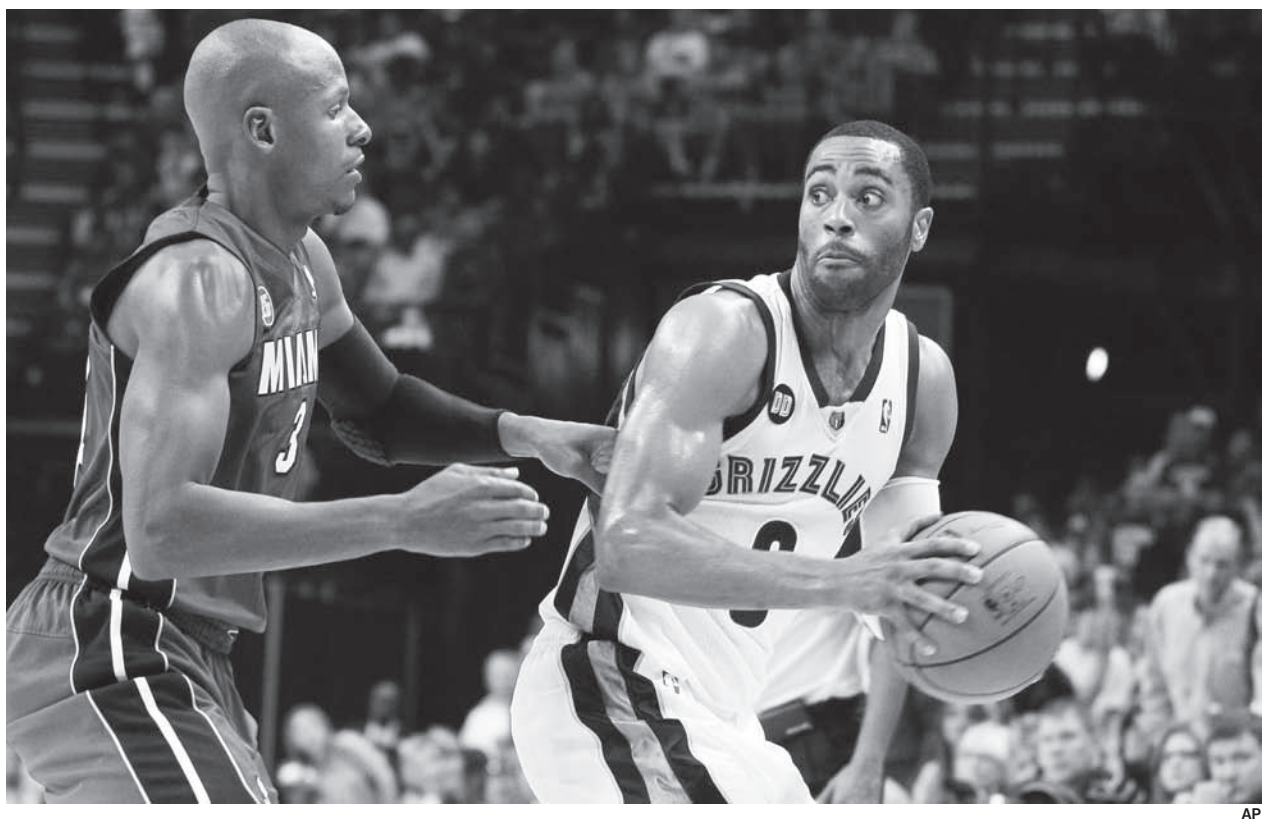
MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)—Reserve Wayne Ellington had career bests with seven 3-pointers and 25 points, leading the Memphis Grizzlies over the Miami Heat 104-86 on Sunday for their fifth straight win and the best start in franchise history.

The Grizzlies (5-1) snapped Miami's four-game winning streak while topping their 4-1 start in 2000-01—the franchise's last season in Vancouver. They also extended their own team-record home winning streak to 14 dating to last season.

Rudy Gay added 21 points and Zach Randolph had his sixth double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds for Memphis. Mike Conley had 18 points and nine assists, while Marc Gasol added 10 rebounds and six assists.

Chris Bosh scored 22 points and LeBron James had 20 for Miami. Dwyane Wade came in averaging 20.4 points but was held to eight in his first game back after missing Friday night's win at Atlanta with a cold.

Memphis never trailed and the Heat managed to tie it only twice, the last at 14-all.



AP

Memphis Grizzlies' Wayne Ellington, right, is guarded by Miami Heat's Ray Allen, left, during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Memphis, Tenn., Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012.

Lakers 103, Kings 90

In Los Angeles, Dwight Howard had 23 points and 18 rebounds, Kobe Bryant scored 20 and Los Angeles warmed up for a possible return by Phil Jackson with a win over Sacramento.

Lame-duck interim coach Bernie Bickerstaff called the shots for the second straight game following the firing of Mike Brown on Friday with the team off to a 1-4 start—their worst in 19 years. They throttled Golden State 101-77 at Staples Center several hours after the change.

Lakers executive vice president Jim Buss and general manager Mitch Kupchak remain in negotiations with Jackson, whom they are trying to coax out of retirement.

Jimmer Fredette scored 18, and Jason Thompson had 15 points and 10 assists for the Kings.

Thunder 106, Cavaliers 91

In Oklahoma City, Russell Westbrook banked in a half-court shot during a rough-and-tumble 27-point outing and Kevin Durant added 26 points to lead Oklahoma City over Cleveland.

Kyrie Irving led the Cavs with 20 points, Alonzo Gee had 18 points and Daniel Gibson.

Irving hit back-to-back 3-pointers after Oklahoma City had taken a 63-50 lead midway through the third quarter and his driving layups on consecutive possessions got Cleveland within 67-65 with 3:42 to go in the period.

The Thunder never relinquished the lead, though, with Kendrick Perkins scoring inside on a basket interference call before Durant's two-handed slam. Then Westbrook took over.

Nets 82, Magic 74

In New York, Brook Lopez scored 20 points, Kris Humphries added 14 points and 21 rebounds, and Brooklyn beat Orlando to complete a home-and-home sweep.

Deron Williams finished with 17 points, seven rebounds, seven assists and a couple key plays down the stretch after what appeared to be another blowout turned into a close game. The Nets beat the Magic 107-68 at Orlando on Friday and jumped out to an early 20-point lead in this one.

But after losing a 22-point lead at home against Minnesota on Monday, Brooklyn almost coughed up another huge cushion, letting Orlando get within five in the final 2 minutes.

Glen Davis had 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Magic, who have dropped four in a row.

Clippers 89, Hawks 76

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin scored 16 points, and Chris Paul had 15 points and eight assists to lead Los Angeles to a win over Atlanta.

Jamal Crawford had 11 points after coming in with a team-high 21.8 average—tops among the league's reserves. Fifth-year center DeAndre Jordan, coming off the first back-to-back 20-point games of his NBA career, finished with eight points.

Josh Smith had a team-high 13 points for the Hawks, who shot 41.7 percent from the field in the opener of a four-game road trip. Atlanta also committed 22 turnovers that led to 24 points for the Clippers.

Charlie Beljan's wild week ends with Disney win

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—Charlie Beljan felt as if his heart was about to burst out of his chest Sunday at Disney, and he couldn't have felt better.

This wasn't another panic attack gone wild, like the one that sent him to the hospital in an ambulance after the second round and made him feel like he was going to die. This was the prospect of winning on the PGA Tour for the first time.

The roller coasters at the Magic Kingdom are nothing like what Beljan went through in the final PGA Tour event of the year.

Two days after he was wheeled out of the scoring room on a stretcher, the 28-year-old rookie was celebrating on the 18th green as the band played "Zippity-Do-Dah." He arrived at the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Classic with his job in jeopardy, and left with a two-year exemption that will send him to Maui at the start of the year, the PGA Championship at Oak Hill and lots of other tournaments where winners belong.

"Every day I drove underneath that Disney sign coming in here that said, `Where dreams come true,' and that's just what happened this week," Beljan said after closing with a 3-under 69 for a two-shot win. "And I'm so grateful and so honored."

By the sound of it, he was lucky to be playing.

Beljan could hardly breathe and his blood pressure spiked during his second round, when paramedics followed him around the back nine. After sleeping for only an hour or so in the hospital after a variety of tests, he played Saturday fearful of having another panic attack. And when he awoke Sunday morning, his head was throbbing and his stomach felt queasy.

Once he got on the golf course, the rest was easy.

Beljan ran off five birdies in a six-hole stretch around the turn, twice knocking in putts from around 30 feet, and built a five-shot lead. A double bogey made it close, but only until he made birdie on the next hole. He tapped in one last putt, tossed his putter to the side of the green, pumped his fist in celebration and hoisted his 7-week-old son.

Robert Garrigus and Matt Every each closed with a 68 and tied for second.

"It was incredible," Beljan said. "I was happy that I was a PGA Tour champion. I was happy that my wife and my baby were here. It still isn't real."

Just three weeks ago, he feared he would have to go to the second stage of Q-school, no guarantee that he would have a tour card for next year. Suddenly, he can make plans for the Tournament of Champions at Kapalua, for events hosted by Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods.

"I don't know what other perks come with winning, but I know every single one of them is pretty darn good," he said.

Beljan finished on 16-under 272 and became the fourth rookie to win on tour this year.

Tim Herron was the other big winner Sunday, closing with a 69 to tie for ninth. That gave him enough money to move from No. 138 to No. 124 on the money list, giving him his full card for the 2013 season.

AP

Charlie Beljan, right, and "Mickey Mouse" hold up the trophy on the 18th green following the final round of the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals golf tournament in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012.

Kevin Chappell finished at No. 125. He wound up $1,809 ahead of Jerry Kelly, but Chappell wasn't safe until Charlie Wi and Josh Teater each made par on the last hole. If either had made bogey, Kelly would have moved up one position—from a six-way tie for ninth to a seven-way tie for eighth - that would have allowed him to pass Chappell.

Instead, Kelly is out of the top 125 for the first time in his career.

Beljan earned $846,000 for the victory, capping a long, hectic season in which he learned he was going to be a father, got married in March and first began suffering panic attacks after he passed out on a flight home from the Reno-Tahoe Open in early August.

Beljan showed a few signs that he might crack. He three-putted from behind the fifth green, and then was disgusted with an approach that just missed the green to the left on No. 7. After getting a drop because his left foot was on a sprinkler head, he rolled in an 18-foot birdie off the green, screamed "Go!" at a wedge that obeyed him and settled a foot away for a tap-in birdie on the eighth, and then holed a 30-foot birdie on the ninth.

He's so long off the tee that the par-5 10th was the easiest of his four straight birdies, and when he knocked in a 30-footer on No. 12, Beljan's lead was up to five shots.

There was only one nervous moment after that.

Instead of playing it safe off the tee at the 13th, he hit driver into the woods, went into a bunker, then across the green, and made a quick double bogey. Garrigus made a birdie ahead of him on the 14th, and suddenly, the lead was only two shots.

No need to panic.

Beljan's 12-foot birdie putt on the 14th caught just enough of the right side of the cup to fall. Garrigus didn't make another birdie, and Beljan's only other big blunder was knocking a birdie attempt some 7 feet by the cup at No. 16. He made that one coming back for par, and reached the 18th tee with a three-shot lead. Typical of the final event of the year, all the drama was on the ever-changing money list.

Herron looked to be in good shape until he hit his tee shot into the water on the 17th hole and made double bogey, and then had a 20-foot birdie putt hang on the edge of the cup on the 18th. He figured he needed that to get his card, and walking off the green he stepped on his bag and gave it a swift kick. He was ready to give the bag another kick when Golf Channel announcer Billy Andrade said he might be safe.

Wi and Teater, playing one group apart, hit the fairway and the green on the 18th for regulation pars to spare Chappell, who started the week at No. 123. Teater, in the final group, ran his birdie putt about 2 1/2 feet by the hole, but knocked that in and Chappell was safe.

Chappell tweeted, "Well I am glad that is over thanks for all the support. I look forward to improving this off season and making sure this never happens again."

Saints end Falcons unbeaten run with 31-27 win

NEW ORLEANS (AP)— Jimmy Graham caught seven passes for a career-best 146 yards and two touchdowns, cornerback Jabari Greer made a diving, touchdown-saving pass breakup on a late fourth-down play, and the New Orleans Saints held on to hand the Atlanta Falcons their first loss, 31-27 on Sunday.

Graham and his Atlanta counterpart, veteran tight end Tony Gonzalez, both were superb in a game that showcased all the intensity and drama of one of the NFL's most passionate and longstanding rivalries

Gonzalez finished with 11 catches for 122 yards and two scores for Atlanta (8-1), and in the process became the first tight end to catch 100 touchdown passes.

Brees threw for 298 yards and three TDs as the Saints (4-5) won for the fourth time in five games, keeping alive hope of getting back into the wild card race after an 0-4 start.

AP

New Orleans Saints running back Chris Ivory (29) crosses the goal line on a touchdown run in the first half an NFL football game against the Atlanta Falcons at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans, Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012.

Texans 13, Bears 6

In Chicago, Arian Foster finished with 102 yards rushing and a touchdown catch, and Houston intercepted Jay Cutler twice before knocking him out of the game with a concussion on their way to a soggy win.

In a showdown between two of the NFL's best teams, the Texans (8-1) beat the Bears (7-2) at their own game. They came away with four takeaways and Tim Dobbins delivered the biggest blow when he drove his helmet into Cutler late in the second quarter.

Foster was the only reliable offensive weapon on either side, particularly in the first half when he ran for 85 yards and made a sprawling catch for a 2-yard touchdown to put Houston ahead 10-3.

49ers 24, Rams 24 (OT)

In San Francisco, San Francisco and St. Louis played the NFL's first tie game in four years as kickers from both teams missed overtime field goals in Sunday's 24-24 outcome.

Greg Zuerlein kicked a 53-yarder, but the Rams were penalized 5 yards for delay of game. He tried again from 58 as coach Jeff Fisher played for the win, and missed wide right with 2:42 left in OT.

San Francisco's David Akers missed wide left on a 41-yard attempt that could have sealed it for the 49ers (6-2-1), who lost quarterback Alex Smith to a first-half concussion.

And just when it seemed the 49ers—and Akers' typically reliable left leg—would have one more chance to win it, San Francisco linebacker Patrick Willis was flagged for holding Lance Kendricks on third down. That extended St. Louis' last drive, a costly mistake in a long list of them on an uncharacteristically sloppy day by coach Jim Harbaugh's team.

Akers booted a tying 33-yarder with 3 seconds left in regulation after Sam Bradford threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Austin Pettis with 1:09 remaining. The Rams are 3-5-1.

Seahawks 28, Jets 7

In Seattle, Russell Wilson threw touchdowns of 38 yards to Golden Tate and 31 yards to Sidney Rice, and Seattle sent the Jets to their worst start since 2007.

Wilson was harried for much of the day by the multiple looks from the Jets' defense. But the Seattle rookie responded with key throws, hitting Tate on the opening drive, then connecting with Rice early in the fourth quarter to give Seattle (6-4) a two-score advantage. Tate added a TD pass on a reverse to Rice later in the fourth quarter.

Mark Sanchez struggled in his reunion with Seattle coach Pete Carroll, his former coach at USC. Sanchez threw a costly interception at the goal line in the first half, then fumbled at the Seattle 32.

Muhammad Wilkerson's fumble return for a TD was the only score for New York (3-6).

Cowboys 38, Eagles 23

In Philadelphia, Tony Romo threw a pair of touchdowns, Dwayne Harris had a 78-yard punt return for a score and Brandon Carr returned an interception 47 yards for a TD.

The Cowboys improved to 4-5, and are second in the NFC East, 1½ games behind the New York Giants.

The Eagles (3-6) lost Michael Vick to a concussion after consecutive bruising hits in the second quarter and have lost five straight games under coach Andy Reid for the first time in his 14 seasons.

Nick Foles filled in for Vick and briefly rallied the Eagles until the Cowboys started showing some touchdown versatility. Romo hit Dez Bryant on a 30-yard pass on the final play of the third quarter, and Harris and Carr scored their TDs in the fourth quarter.

Broncos 36, Panthers 14

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Peyton Manning made sure John Fox's return to Carolina was a successful one, throwing for 301 yards and a touchdown.

Manning threw his 420th touchdown pass to move into a tie for second place on the NFL's all-time list with Dan Marino. He trails only Brett Favre (508).

Manning had plenty of help from his teammates.

Von Miller harassed Cam Newton all day and Trindon Holliday returned a punt 76 yards for a touchdown as the Broncos (6-3) won for the fifth time in six weeks. The Broncos sacked Newton seven times, including once for a safety, and Miller pressured him into an interception Tony Carter returned 40 yards for a score.

Fox, who coached the Panthers for nine seasons, downplayed his return all week, but celebrated with a few fist pumps Sunday.

Patriots 37, Bills 31

In Foxborough, Massachussets, Tom Brady threw for two touchdowns, Devin McCourty ended Buffalo's hopes with an interception in the end zone and New England kept Buffalo winless at Gillette Stadium.

The Patriots (6-3) let a 17-3 lead slip to 34-31 with 7:47 left on Ryan Fitzpatrick's 2-yard touchdown pass to Donald Jones. Then the Bills (3-6) held the Patriots to a 27-yard field goal by Stephen Gostkowski with 2:06 remaining.

Buffalo then moved to a second-and-10 at the New England 15 before Fitzpatrick threw the ball right into the hands of McCourty while trying to hit T.J. Graham.

New England is 11-0 against the Bills at Gillette since it opened in 2002 and 20-2 overall in its last 22 games against Buffalo.

Vikings 34, Lions 24

In Minneapolis, Adrian Peterson raced 61 yards for the game-sealing touchdown midway through the fourth quarter, padding his NFL rushing lead with 171 yards on 27 carries for Minnesota.

Peterson had 120 yards in the final 15 minutes, 10½ months after reconstructive surgery on his left knee. Ponder bounced back from a rough game with 221 yards and two touchdowns on 24-for-32 passing for the Vikings (6-4).

Calvin Johnson had 207 yards on 12 catches, including a touchdown that brought the Lions (4-5) a little closer with 1:53 left. But Johnson's lost fumble near midfield on the previous possession put Vikings rookie Blair Walsh in position for his fourth field goal.

Buccaneers 34, Chargers 24

In Tampa, Florida, Josh Freeman threw two touchdown passes and the surging Buccaneers scored on a blocked punt and Leonard Johnson's 83-yard interception.

Freeman has thrown for 13 TDs with one interception in his past five games, helping the Bucs (5-4) win four times to climb back over .500 following a 1-3 start.

Rivers threw for 337 yards and three touchdowns for San Diego. He was intercepted twice in the fourth quarter to ruin any chance of the Chargers (4-5) coming from behind.

Bengals 31, Giants13

In Cincinnnati, Andy Dalton threw a career-high four touchdown passes—each to a different receiver—and the Cincinnati Bengals ended their four-game losing streak by beating the New York Giants 31-13 on Sunday.

The Bengals (4-5) took advantage of a fumble and Eli Manning's two interceptions, which set up third-quarter touchdowns. That helped A.J. Green back up his observation there are holes in New York's defense.

The defending Super Bowl champions have a lot of holes everywhere.

The Giants (6-4) head into their bye with back-to-back losses and a lot of issues, especially on offense. Manning had another subpar game, failing to live up his family legacy of beating the Bengals. Older brother Peyton improved to 8-0 against Cincinnati on the same field a week earlier, leading Denver to a 31-23 win.

The Giants turned it over four times in the second half.

Ravens 55, Raiders 20

In Baltimore, Joe Flacco threw for 341 yards and three touchdowns, and Baltimore set a club record for points.

The Ravens (7-2) scored on six of their first seven possessions against the struggling Raiders (3-6), who have yielded at least 40 points in two straight games for the first time since 1962. The 55 points tied an Oakland record for points allowed, a mark set in 1961 and matched in 1981.

Baltimore led 27-10 at halftime. In the third quarter, Flacco threw touchdown passes of 47 and 20 yards to Torrey Smith, and holder Sam Koch scored on a fake field goal in the third quarter to make it 48-17.

In the fourth quarter, Jacoby Jones took a kickoff 105 yards for 55-20 lead. Baltimore's previous record for points in a game was 48, against Detroit in December 2009.

Titans 37, Dolphins 3

In Miami, Colin McCarthy returned an interception 49 yards for a touchdown, and four takeaways helped Tennessee rout Miami.

The Titans came into the game on pace to set an NFL record for points allowed in a season, but they stymied Miami by intercepting Ryan Tannehill three times and recovering a Reggie Bush fumble to set up a touchdown.

Tennessee (4-6) rebounded from a 51-20 loss a week ago against the Bears that prompted owner Bud Adams to put the organization on notice. Last week the Titans trailed 28-2 after one quarter; this week they led 21-0 after 16 minutes.

For Miami (4-5), the home loss was the most lopsided since 1968.

DIZON

From Page 28

of four hours, 39 minutes, and 25 seconds, while Carey, who now lives in Guam, crossed the line fourth overall in 4:48:09.

The pair each won a cool $500 cash prize for their feat as the majority of riders completed the course closer to the six-hour mark.

"It was very, very long and the sheer distance alone, to me, is what made it so difficult. It is by far the hardest course in which I've competed and I'm sure that the other riders will back me up in saying that the sense of accomplishment in just finishing feels really great. I trained for three months for this event, riding about 500K per week, and still found it to be a commendable challenge," expressed Dizon as he cooled down after completing the course.

Eight competitors tackled the male open division, while Carey finished a world ahead of the other three open female entrants.

In between the pair, came men's open runner-up Lewie Tenorio (4:43:15) and third placer Ariel Garcia (4:46:40), who had cramped up literally half way through the course, but roughed it out for the last podium position.

Notably, Carey took a spill along the way and got scraped up pretty bad with about 25 kilometers to go as she lost control on a downhill segment. However, she also soldiered on an effort to show up the guys as her open division victory was never in question.

"I was speeding down a hill and lost control [of my bike] along a turn in a rough patch of the road where rain washed some gravel onto the pavement. I tried to hit my brakes and recover, but was going too fast and had to brace myself [for contact]. I was bleeding and it hurt bad all the way to the finish, but I made it and I'm okay," assured Carey after the race.

It has been three years since she last wrecked like that, but all in all, Carey welcomed the test in belief that it will better prepare her for Saipan's upcoming Hell of the Marianas event, slated for Nov. 26.

Tour De Tinian's length and rough almost off-road terrain and steep hills along with the heat last Sunday were repeatedly described by participants as its most challenging features.

The riders also acknowledged that the course developers did a great job using virtually the entire island as part of the route, which provided beautiful scenic views throughout its entirety; the signs that were posted to mark the path were also implicit with the riders.

Dizon, the 2011 Hell winner, even joked that he can finish the Hell of the Marianas course with a smile on his face from start to finish, but this was not nearly the case regarding Tinian's new beast.

Notably, in addition to trying to defend his 2011 Hell title, Dizon also hopes to make his debut in next year's Tour De Guam 100K race.

Honorable mention went to 25-and-under division winner, 14-year-old Erico Castro, who came to the finish line fifth overall in 4:55:33. No other place finishers broke the five-hour mark.

Other place finishers included open women's Glorybel Tan (6:24:39) and Susan Marchitti (6:35:37); 26-35 age group's Paul Sauget (6:51:05) of Guam, who completed the trek despite suffering three crashes and a busted knee; 36-45's John Arceo (5:20:18); and 46-and-above's Cesar Fortaleza (5:14:33).

Tan and Tenorio were each awarded $250 for seizing runner-up honors, while Garcia and Marchitti went away with $150 for claiming third. Each age class winner received $100 in cash.

In addition, a Tinian foursome made up of Edgard Acollador, James Clemente, Edgardo Jabinar, and Donny Rivera won the four-person 25K relay over three other groups with a combined time of 5:38:56; and Saipan's Gerald Rangamar and Jay Diyco won what turned out to be a two-man, head-to-head 50K relay in 6:05:42; while Andy Cacabelos (6:42:55) and Arwin Reyes (6:58:24) were recognized as the Top 2 local BAT-member riders.

The relay winners also each received $100, while $200 went to Cacabelos and $150 was presented to Reyes; 30 riders in total turned out for the event.

Various raffle prizes were also given away to the registered bikers after Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz presented the awards to the winners along with BAT's Richard Lizardo and Dawn Sarmiento.

Organizers plan to feature the 100K spectacle as a yearly event from now on and promote it as a preparation event leading into the Memorial Day International Bike Race.

In addition to the Tinian Mayor's Office and BAT, the Marianas Visitors Authority, Star Marianas Air, Tinian Management Solutions, The Super Emerald, IT&E, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, Marpac/Budweiser, Pacific Trading Co./Gatorade, Mobil, ELS Auto Shop, Pacific Islands Club, NMI Cycling Federation, Saipan Bike Pro, San's Creations, JC Café, Johnsons Air Conditioning, and Sherman Consulting sponsored the race.

SWEEP

From Page 28

the restroom across the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with participants running along the shore as they headed back to the starting line.

Majority of the runners were just about to start their third lap when Mancao had already completed the longest race of the weekend. The MHS runner finished more than two minutes ahead of runner-up Zeyeo Lin of Agape. Lin timed in at 19:58, out-sprinting teammate Mengge Lai to the finish line, as the latter clocked in at 19:59.

Other finishers in the boys U18 were Agape's Richard Wei (21:10), Allen Guo (23:32), Bill Chan (20:58), David Chan (20:57), Mengfe Li (20:17), Jiang Ping Kong (22:49), Hong An Zhi (29:30), Series 1 winner Mark Puno (20:14), Joseph Yang (21:19), and Elijah Li (31:21) and MHS' Carlo Ocaya (22:33), Lorenzo Sanchez (26:29), Anthony Iglecias (25:18), and Tiger Yatsui (24:42).

The MHS Dolphins had a sweep in the high school division after Shane Fabiana topped the girls race at the 23:42 mark. Actually the girls U18 race was an all-MHS affair, as Fabiana's teammates, Francine Sablan and Brianna Pangelinan, came in at second and third place with times of 24:45 and 31:14, respectively.

In the junior high school or U14 division, which covered two laps of the course, Hopwood's Edgem Bedania submitted 11:42 to defeat six other runners. Bedania crossed the finished line less than a minute ahead of Saipan Community School's Elnathan Wong (12:14). Kevin Lee joined Bedania and Wong in the Top 3 after clocking in at 14:33, while the four other finishers were Agape's Moses Qiu 16:28) and Kylan Sablan (17:17) and SCS' Peter Park (16:29) and Daniel Calvo (16:53).

The girls U14 had only one entry in Agape's Beibei Chen, who completed the two-lap race in 18:33.

Meanwhile, student-runners have only one chance left to qualify for the 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships with the staging of the third leg of the series on Nov. 24 at the American Memorial Park at 6:30am. The championship will then be held the following weekend or on Dec. 1, also at the AMP.

For more information, contact Northern Marianas Athletics' Elias Rangamar at eli_rang@yahoo.com.

SONICS

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second period, but still boasted a 36-25 margin at halftime and barreled full steam ahead in the third quarter, 56-33, with a dominating defensive performance.

Aranda kept the torch though the third frame, adding 6 more points that was complemented by six others and the reigning champs sent a message to the rest of the field by not letting up in garbage time.

Melvin Cadiang fronted the Sonics with 16 points, while LD Prime's Jonathan Gunnacho scrambled for a meager team-high total of 11 under duress.

In the second matchup, both teams shared the ball well in what was a back-and-forth opening period that ended with Proa coming out on top, 23-21.

But Kagman connected on a pair of 3-pointers in the second quarter to grasp a 42-38 favor at the half.

Eight different Proa players chipped in on the bill in the first quarter, and six from the Kagman side, while the latter's Jason Lampkin and Jesse Santos teamed up for 15 points in the rally.

Proa regrouped after the break, however, and Ichitaro Faisao and Jacob Palacios delivered 6 points apiece to regain control, 60-54, heading into the fourth quarter.

Lampkin and Santos were each held to just one basket in the third frame, while Jonathon Santos tried to fill the void with a 6-point string late in the period.

Meanwhile, it was all hands on deck again for Proa in the third quarter as seven players put a hand in on the action and the team did a good job protecting the ball in the last stand.

Faisao and Palacios each added 6 more checks in the payoff period that thwarted Jonathon Santos' 9 markers.

Proa's quality of play progressed throughout the game, and though Kagman put up a heck of a fight, the group could not get enough baskets to fall in the clutch. To its credit, Proa played it smart and avoided committing any crucial mistakes under pressure.

Faisao led the victors with 19 points, while Kagman's Jesse Santos topped the field with 21.

First Game

Sonics 93 – Cadiang 16, Aranda 11, A Palacios 10, Salem 9, Del Rosario 8, Tudela 8, Alegre 8, Caro 6, Villanueva 6, Deguzman 4, Mariano 4.

LD Prime 37 – Gunnacho 11, Quemado 8, Esteves 8, Espinosa8 6, Lapuz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 27-10, 36-25, 56-33, 92-37.

Second Game

Mariana Resort/NMC-Proa 78 – Faisao 19, Deleon Guerrero-Diaz 12, Jac Palacios 10, Jas Palacios 10, Sanerez 8, Manalili 8, Villagomez 5, Capuyon, Hemley 2, Taitano 2.

Kagman 73 – Je. Santos 21, Lampkin 18, Jo. Santos 17, Palino 6, Malwelbug 4, Soriano 3

Scoring by quarters: 23-21, 38-42, 60-54, 78-73.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	4	0	1.000	–
Philadelphia	4	2	.667	1
Brooklyn	3	2	.600	1 1/2
Boston	3	3	.500	2
Toronto	1	5	.167	4

Southeast Division

Miami	5	2	.714	–
Charlotte	2	3	.400	2
Atlanta	2	3	.400	2
Orlando	2	4	.333	2 1/2
Washington	0	5	.000	4

Central Division

Chicago	4	2	.667	–
Milwaukee	3	2	.600	1/2
Indiana	3	4	.429	1 1/2
Cleveland	2	5	.286	2 1/2
Detroit	0	7	.000	4 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	6	1	.857	–
Memphis	5	1	.833	1/2
New Orleans	3	2	.600	2
Dallas	4	3	.571	2
Houston	3	3	.500	2 1/2

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	5	2	.714	–
Minnesota	4	2	.667	1/2
Denver	4	3	.571	1
Utah	3	4	.429	2
Portland	2	4	.333	2 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	5	2	.714	–
L.A. Lakers	3	4	.429	2
Golden State	3	4	.429	2
Phoenix	3	4	.429	2
Sacramento	2	5	.286	

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	3	0	.667	299	201
Miami	4	5	0	.444	173	186
N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333	175	228
Buffalo	3	6	0	.333	211	285

South

Houston	8	1	0	.889	250	143
Indianapolis	6	3	0	.667	186	201
Tennessee	4	6	0	.400	219	311
Jacksonville	1	8	0	.111	127	246

North

Baltimore	7	2	0	.778	254	196
Pittsburgh	5	3	0	.625	191	164
Cincinnati	4	5	0	.444	220	231
Cleveland	2	7	0	.222	169	211

West

Denver	6	3	0	.667	271	189
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	209	191
Oakland	3	6	0	.333	191	284
Kansas City	1	7	0	.125	133	240

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	6	4	0	.600	267	216
Dallas	4	5	0	.444	188	204
Philadelphia	3	6	0	.333	156	221
Washington	3	6	0	.333	226	248

South

Atlanta	8	1	0	.889	247	174
Tampa Bay	5	4	0	.556	260	209
New Orleans	4	5	0	.444	249	256
Carolina	2	7	0	.222	163	216

North

Chicago	7	2	0	.778	242	133
Green Bay	6	3	0	.667	239	187
Minnesota	6	4	0	.600	238	221
Detroit	4	5	0	.444	216	222

West

San Francisco	6	2	1	.722	213	127
Seattle	6	4	0	.600	198	161
Arizona	4	5	0	.444	144	173
St. Louis	3	5	1	.389	161	210

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS CLASSIC SCORES

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida (AP)–Scores Saturday from the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Classic, a US PGA Tour event at two par-72 courses; 7,516-yard m-Magnolia Golf Course, and 7,011-yard p-Palm Golf Course:

FINAL ROUND

Charlie Beljan, $846,000	68m-64p-71m-69m–272
Matt Every, $413,600	67p-69m-70m-68m–274
Robert Garrigus, $413,600	68p-68m-70m-68m–274
Brian Gay, $225,600	69p-69m-67m-70m–275
Scott Stallings, $165,088	66p-70m-71m-69m–276
Josh Teater, $165,088	71p-67m-67m-71m–276
Boo Weekley, $165,088	70m-67p-72m-67m–276
Charlie Wi, $165,088	64p-71m-70m-71m–276
Mark Anderson, $112,800	68p-67m-74m-68m–277
Tom Gillis, $112,800	72m-66p-70m-69m–277
Tim Herron, $112,800	71m-70p-67m-69m–277
Jerry Kelly, $112,800	71m-68p-72m-66m–277
Russell Knox, $112,800	66p-72m-72m-67m–277
Joey Snyder III, $112,800	69m-70p-72m-66m–277
Cameron Beckman, $77,550	70m-68p-69m-71m–278
Charles Howell III, $77,550	68m-67p-73m-70m–278
Ryan Palmer, $77,550	70m-70p-67m-71m–278
Kevin Streelman, $77,550	68m-68p-72m-70m–278
Jonas Blixt, $49,454	70p-71m-68m-70m–279
Harris English, $49,454	68p-67m-73m-71m–279
Matt Jones, $49,454	71m-64p-73m-71m–279
Daniel Summerhays, $49,454	71m-71p-68m-69m–279
Daniel Chopra, $49,454	69m-67p-70m-73m–279
Brendon de Jonge, $49,454	69m-68p-70m-72m–279
Scott Dunlap, $49,454	72m-68p-68m-71m–279
Sean O'Hair, $49,454	73m-68p-67m-71m–279
Henrik Stenson, $49,454	68m-67p-71m-73m–279
Martin Flores, $31,255	72p-69m-71m-68m–280
Ryuji Imada, $31,255	69p-66m-73m-72m–280
Robert Karlsson, $31,255	71m-70p-72m-67m–280
Vaughn Taylor, $31,255	70m-68p-68m-74m–280
Roland Thatcher, $31,255	69p-73m-67m-71m–280
Camilo Villegas, $31,255	65p-71m-70m-74m–280
Roberto Castro, $23,735	69p-71m-72m-69m–281
Kevin Chappell, $23,735	67p-69m-72m-73m–281
Gavin Coles, $23,735	71m-71p-70m-69m–281
Billy Horschel, $23,735	71p-70m-71m-69m–281
Derek Lamely, $23,735	73m-68p-69m-71m–281
D.J. Trahan, $23,735	74m-67p-68m-72m–281
Stuart Appleby, $16,046	74m-68p-69m-71m–282
Matt Bettencourt, $16,046	67p-74m-71m-70m–282
Stewart Cink, $16,046	69p-69m-75m-69m–282
Ken Duke, $16,046	67p-74m-69m-72m–282
Tommy Gainey, $16,046	65p-71m-70m-76m–282
Colt Knost, $16,046	67p-71m-71m-73m–282
Davis Love III, $16,046	73p-68m-70m-71m–282
Nick O'Hern, $16,046	69m-73p-73m-67m–282
Brendan Steele, $16,046	67p-75m-72m-68m–282
Garrett Willis, $16,046	73m-69p-70m-70m–282
Miguel Angel Carballo, $11,249	71m-65p-74m-73m–283
Will Claxton, $11,249	72m-67p-71m-73m–283
Jeff Maggert, $11,249	72p-70m-68m-73m–283
William McGirt, $11,249	71m-71p-69m-72m–283
Justin Leonard, $11,249	73m-67p-73m-70m–283
Edward Loar, $11,249	69m-74p-72m-68m–283
Brian Harman, $10,622	66p-72m-73m-73m–284
Tom Pernice Jr., $10,622	74p-68m-73m-69m–284
Ted Potter, Jr., $10,622	75m-68p-69m-72m–284
Jason Kokrak, $10,340	71m-68p-74m-72m–285
Chris Stroud, $10,340	70m-66p-77m-72m–285
Cameron Tringale, $10,340	75m-67p-72m-71m–285
Ben Curtis, $10,058	69m-70p-75m-72m–286
Nathan Green, $10,058	71p-72m-71m-72m–286
Kyle Reifers, $10,058	69m-74p-70m-73m–286
Carl Paulson, $9,823	71m-70p-74m-72m–287
John Rollins, $9,823	70m-70p-75m-72m–287
Marco Dawson, $9,541	68p-72m-74m-74m–288
J.J. Killeen, $9,541	71p-70m-71m-76m–288
Alexandre Rocha, $9,541	71p-70m-75m-72m–288
Gary Woodland, $9,541	73p-68m-74m-73m–288
Alex Cejka, $9,212	72p-71m-69m-77m–289
Chris DiMarco, $9,212	72p-71m-71m-75m–289
Patrick Sheehan, $9,212	69p-73m-72m-75m–289
Jason Bohn, $8,977	73m-70p-70m-77m–290
Chris Kirk, $8,977	73p-70m-72m-75m–290
Shane Bertsch, $8,836	69p-71m-75m-76m–291
Chez Reavie, $8,742	68m-74p-74m-76m–292
Mathew Goggin, $8,648	69p-74m-72m-79m–294

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IFC-1

From Page 28

for IFC-1, which grabbed the driver's seat from Matansa, pending last Friday's results. IFC-1 held a 5-1-1 win-draw-loss record for 16 points against the 15 of Matansa (5-0-1). As of Wednesday, IFC-1 has also gained 24 goals and has given up only 6. IFC-1 fell to a 1-1-5 slate for second to the last place in the eight-team field and has earned only 16 goals, while giving up 29.

Anne Padilla made it first to the scoreboard for IFC-1 last week, drilling a goal in the 11th minute. IFC-1's two other goals came in the second half with Dyenina Diaz scoring in the 24th and Temary Gramlich following suit four minutes later.

MP United-1 3, Shirley's FC 3

In the second game, MP United-1 and Shirley's FC figured in a draw.

With the tie, Shirley's FC remained in third place with its 4-2-1 record (14 points), while MP United-1 also stayed at the No. 4 spot with its 3-2-2 card (11 points).

Diana Maniacop drew first blood for Shirley's with her goal in the ninth minute, while Reylyn Sapong made it a 2-0 count a few minutes later. MP United then cut the deficit to one at the break, as Michiko Tenorio scored four minutes before the first half ended.

MP United then equalized in the second half behind the goal of Zena Demapan in the 29th minute, but a penalty shot from Glorily Williams two minutes later brought Shirley's back on top.

A goal from Lydia Tan in the 37th minute forced the second deadlock of the game and the match remained even when the final buzzer sounded.

Tan Holdings 3, MP United-2 0

Tan Holdings notched back-to-back victories after blanking MP United-2 in the final Division B match last Wednesday.

With its twin wins after a 0-4 start, Tan Holdings (2-1-4), which also stunned erstwhile undefeated Matansa last week, moved up from eighth to sixth spot in the team standings, while MP United-2 is at the cellar with its 0-0-7 record.

Mary Kae Alferos and Chloe Salvosa gave Tan Holdings one goal apiece in the first half and the team's third goal was recorded in the second half off MP United-2's miscue.

2012 Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Teams pose for a group photo after the opening ceremony of the 2012 Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament last Nov. 3 at the TSL Sports Complex.

TAGA Badminton Club member pose for a group photo.

Players of Berks Blazers gather for a group photo.

Shirley's Badminton Club players, who won the cheering competition, smile for the camera.

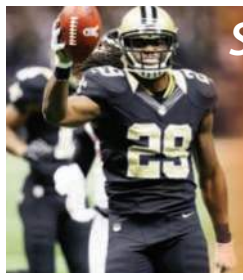
Northern Marianas Badminton Association president Jerry Tan, left, delivers the welcome remarks, while opening ceremony guest Consul Edgar Thomas Auxilian, fourth from left, of the Philippine Consulate in Guam listens.

Tournament chair Macoi Aguda gives some reminders before kicking off the competition.

Players of Golden Racquets celebrate their win in the best in uniform contest.

Saipan Badminton Club player watch the other clubs enter the court.

Players listen to the brief speech of opening rites guest Consul Edgar Thomas Auxilian of the Philippine Consulate in Guam.



Saints end Falcons unbeaten run with 31-27 win

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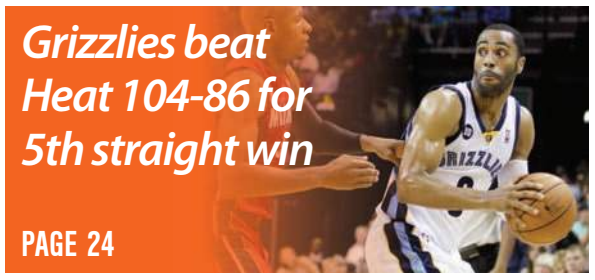
Sports



Grizzlies beat Heat 104-86 for 5th straight win

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Men's open winner Nap Dizon, center, runner-up Lewie Tenorio, second from left, and third placer Ariel Garcia, fourth from right, pose for a photo with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, third from right and Bikers Association of Tinian's Dawn Sarmiento, left, and Richard Lizardo, right, after accepting their prizes at the conclusion of last Sunday's Tour De Tinian 100K Veterans Day Mountain Bike Race.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Women's open winner Mieko Carey, third from right, runner-up Glorybel Tan, second from left, and third placer Susan Marchitti, second from right, pose for a photo with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, third from left, and Bikers Association of Tinian's Dawn Sarmiento, left, and Richard Lizardo, right, after accepting their prizes at the conclusion of last Sunday's Tour De Tinian 100K Veterans Day Mountain Bike Race.

Dizon, Carey rule Tour De Tinian

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

TINIAN—Nap Dizon and Mieko Carey were crowned the overall male and female winners of last Sunday's Tour De Tinian 100-Kilometer Veterans Day Mountain Bike Race.

The Tinian Mayor's Office and the Biker's Association of Tinian (BAT) bannered the island's inaugural long distance cycling event, which started and ended over the weekend at Taga Beach.

Organizers were proud to have participants from Tinian, Saipan, and Guam turn out as the event achieved its initial goal of qualifying the affair as an "All Marianas" event.

Dizon finished the grueling course in an impressive time

See **DIZON** on **Page 26**

Sweep for MHS runners

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School's Michael Mancao heads to the finish line of the 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series 2 held last Saturday in Susupe.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

After missing the kick-off of the 2012 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series, Marianas High School's Michael Mancao showed up in the second leg and blew away his competitors last Saturday.

Mancao posted 17:20 in the three-lap race in the boys U18 division (high school) to beat 16 other runners. The high school race began at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe all the way up to

See **SWEEP** on **Page 26**

Sonics, Proa advance to 2nd round of U20 playoffs

Proa's Ichitaro Faisao turns around Kagman's Jonathan Santos and beats Jesse Santos to the basket during their U20 Rotary caging playoff game last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The undefeated Sonics cruised, while Marinas Resort/Northern Marianas College-Proa bruised through the opening round of the U20 Rotary Club of Saipan Youth Basketball League postseason, which took place Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The defending champion Sonics (9-0) buried eighth-ranked LD Prime (2-7), 92-37, in the curtain raiser, after which second-ranked Proa (8-1) fought off a feisty Kagman (3-6) squad, 78-73, in the late feature.

Third-seeded Rollers 2 (7-2) took on No. 6 Hi-5 (4-5) last night and details of the match will be released tomorrow. Meanwhile, fourth-ranked Rollers 1 (5-4) and Oleai's fifth place Ol'Aces (5-4) face off tonight at 5:30pm with the winner moving on to challenge the Sonics tomorrow.

The Sonics broke out to a hefty 27-10 lead in the first quarter primarily off 7 points from Jack Aranda and 6 apiece in support by Nevin Salem and Jimmy Tudela.

The group eased up in the

See **SONICS** on **Page 26**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United-1's Lydia Tan, center, seen here in possession of the ball against an IFC-1 defender, scored the equalizer during their game against Shirley's in Division B of the women's futsal league last Wednesday at the TSL Sports Complex.

IFC-1 wins battle of sister teams

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Independents FC-1 showed no love lost to sister squad IFC-2, cruising to a 3-0 shutout win in their Division B meeting in the 2012 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League last Wednesday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Three different players scored

See **IFC-1** on **Page 26**